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GSS special measures extended for another 3 months

ALON PINKAS

THE General Security Service yesterday was granted a three-month extension of its permit to use "special measures," including shaking, during interrogations.

The extension was granted by the special ministerial committee on GSS affairs, at a meeting at Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Tel Aviv office.

"As long as there are extremists intent on destroying the peace process, we need these measures," Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said after the meeting.

The extension of the permit is the third since it was granted to the GSS in the aftermath of the No. 5 bus bombing in Tel Aviv a year ago. The measures were expanded and extended again after the Beit Lid bombing in January, and again in August.

The permit will remain in effect until January 23, 1996, when it will be reviewed again.

The measures covered by the permit include exerting physical pressure on suspects, including extreme "body shaking," and to temporarily deprive them of legal assistance until information deemed vital by investigators is obtained from them.

The committee, made up of Rabin, Sarid, Police Minister Moshe Shabai, Justice Minister David Liba'i and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, reached its decision in less than an hour, despite Ben-Yair's harsh criticism of the GSS published Wednesday.

In an interview in *Haprahit*, the Israel Bar Association journal, Ben-Yair accused the GSS of exploiting public opinion and demanding special permits for inter-

(Continued on Page 18)



Census taker Eran Elboher explains the questionnaire to Shimon Einy, of Jerusalem's Sha'are Hessed section, as the fifth national census got under way yesterday. The Central Bureau of Statistics promises results in the spring. (Brian Handler)

Labor leaders dismiss early elections

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other Labor leaders yesterday roundly rejected the idea of calling early elections.

Addressing the weekly session of the Labor political bureau, they were commenting on an *Ha'aretz* report yesterday that claimed the party's top echelon has begun considering whether to advance election day to June of next year instead of November.

Despite Labor's denials, the

Likud said it will submit a bill next week to disband the Knesset and call early elections. "Rabin's jittery, nervous reactions attest to the fact that this government has lost its way," the party asserted, in an official statement. "It is time for it to go home and for the electorate to go to the polling booths."

There is no intention whatsoever, and there never was, to move up election day," Rabin told the bureau. "This government will continue in office until the day set for elections by law. It is our intention to continue realizing what we have begun to do, what we are doing and what we shall go on doing until the mandatory polling day."

"Of course, the possibility does exist that we might lose our parliamentary majority, in which case we will have to go to elections earlier than we wish, but I do not believe that we will lose the majority we have," he said.

Talk about early elections, Rabin contended, "will only hinder this government's functioning."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was equally unequivocal in his denial of early election plans. "There is no need for us to fear because we have only a slim majority in the Knesset," Peres said. "Even a majority of 61 is a majority. There is no need to shorten this government's term. The gov-

(Continued on Page 18)

Clinton to press Israel, Syria to renew talks

ALON PINKAS

US President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher will pressure Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to renew talks with Syria during their meeting in New York next week, a senior diplomatic source in Jerusalem said last night.

Rabin may meet Clinton again in Washington on Thursday, although such a meeting has not been finalized.

The source also said that there are "encouraging signs" coming from Washington indicating that Syria is ready to renew the military talks between the chiefs of general staff of the two countries

or lower level officers. "What these talks will yield is another story," he added.

He said the US is intent on preventing escalation in Lebanon and believes that one way of doing so is to renew the talks, or at least creating the appearance of progress on the Israeli-Syrian track.

While an official work session has not been scheduled, Rabin is to meet both Clinton and Christopher during several of the United Nations' 50th anniversary celebrations in New York.

According to a source at the Prime Minister's Office, Rabin may meet Clinton in Washington on Thursday if the two decide in New York that such a meeting is necessary.

(Continued on Page 18)

Rabin, CIA director discuss Iranian missile program

ALON PINKAS

THE Iranian arms buildup, especially the extensive surface-to-surface missile program, dominated the agenda at a meeting in Tel Aviv yesterday between Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and US Central Intelligence Agency Director John Deutch.

Rabin briefed Deutch on Iran's involvement in Lebanese politics and its material support of Hezbollah. The two, according to a source at the Prime Minister's Office, discussed "strategic trends in the region, with special attention to Iran and Iraq."

Deutch, who arrived here yesterday for a three-day visit, was appointed by President Clinton five months ago after serving as deputy secretary of defense. In that capacity, he was involved in the US-Israel defense cooperation and the US's funding of the Arrow anti-ballistic-missile missile. Today he is to visit the Arrow-2 project in central Israel and be briefed by industry officials on scheduled test flights.

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Israeli and PA security men meet on Jenin redeployment

ISRAELI and Palestinian security officials met in Jenin yesterday to begin discussing the IDF redeployment which starts there Wednesday and finishes in Hebron in March.

The redeployment from Jenin will take four weeks. The army has already started packing. It evacuated prisoners from Jenin weeks ago, and this week evacuated all prisoners from the two main jails in Nablus. Under Oslo 2, Nablus will be turned over to Palestinian police by the end of next month, after Jenin and Kalbilya.

Israelis concerned with their security as Oslo 2 is implemented are matched by Palestinians, who consider their security situation chaotic. The limitations on the Palestinian security forces and Israeli indifference to violence not directed at them has created a vacuum filled by private armies.

The best example is Ahmed Tabouk, former deputy Fatah chief in Nablus and a self-styled

"Fatah Hawk" (after the Gaza gangs), who heads a group numbering 60, all armed, and with only the thinnest ideological veil. Last week, his men murdered construction worker Samir Kurdi in broad daylight. On Tuesday, they shot and wounded Saad Kursi for "moral offenses," their eighth victim.

Tabouk, now feared, was popular a few months ago because he brought about the downfall of his corrupt boss Issam Bakr, who as unofficial head of Jibril Rajoub's Preventive Security Service in Nablus was taking protection money from merchants. Bakr was personally deposed by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat because Tabouk revealed that he sold two automatic weapons, personal gifts from Arafat, to Hamas.

This made Tabouk a power in Nablus. He demanded protection money himself, and when gold merchant Wajid Kimbawi re-

fused, he shot him in the legs. Nablus sources said.

Gen. Haj Ismail, who headed the Palestinian security officials at yesterday's talks, ordered Tabouk to Jericho where he was arrested about a month ago. But he escaped from Ismail's minimum security jail and is back in Nablus. Some say Tabouk is backed by Rajoub, but most say Bakr was known as Rajoub's man and that Rajoub would kill Tabouk if it could be done quietly.

Last week, Tabouk fired at the feet of the acting preventive security boss in Nablus, former Palestinian negotiator Samih Kanaan, and threw him out of his office.

"I can't do anything against him yet," Ismail, who is to head the police in an area stretching from Jenin to Hebron, told one Nablus notable.

The expectation is that Tabouk will be brought to heel when more than 300 armed police can

operate openly in Nablus.

Two of Fatah's heaviest hitters, responsible for deadly terror attacks against Israelis 20 years ago, Mahmoud Allouf and Abu Firas Liftawi, are expected to take control in Nablus as "soldiers of peace." Tabouk was among those who signed a statement welcoming them home last week.

Rajoub appeared at a demonstration in Ramallah yesterday, a rare public appearance outside Jericho, after being officially barred from leaving Jericho by the IDF. Rajoub arrived as the second protest this week over the festering prisoner release dispute was about to erupt in Manara Square.

By all accounts, his presence influenced the organizers to drop their plans. He was escorted away by border policemen. Later, he received a new permit to travel outside Jericho to visit the towns he will be policing openly in a few weeks.

Senate said heavily in favor of Dole embassy bill

HILLEL KUTLER
WASHINGTON

THE Senate is on the verge of voting overwhelmingly to move the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, sources said yesterday.

One Capitol Hill source said that support for the bill is now "very substantial," while a Senate aide predicted that at least 75 of the 100 senators would vote in favor. Sixty-four Senators co-sponsored the bill when it was introduced a week ago by Majority Leader Robert Dole.

Jim Kennedy, a spokesman for Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman, a key Democratic sponsor of the legislation, said, "We believe [support] will be ... potentially enough to override any

[presidential] veto that may occur."

US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross has been meeting with Senate leaders in recent days in an attempt to remove provisions of the bill the administration objects to, congressional sources said.

The bill was to be brought to the Senate floor as early as late last night, with a vote likely by Monday. Republican and Democratic sponsors are aiming to vote on it prior to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's arrival here Wednesday for a congressional ceremony marking the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations.

Begin says he has original 'PLO letters'

HERB KEINON

MK Ze'ev Begin (Likud) yesterday displayed what he said are originals of documents showing that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat ordered \$10 million of Palestinian Authority money allocated to Israeli Arab parties and municipalities, and that \$15m. be used to buy property in east Jerusalem.

The so-called "PLO letters" first became public in June, but at that time only photocopies were available.

Arafat aide Ahmed Tibi, who is mentioned in one letter as a middleman in the Jerusalem deal, and in another as the dispenser of funds to the parties, hotly denied their authenticity when the story first broke, saying they were forgeries meant to discredit the PA.

Tibi, who hired an investigator who deemed the documents forgeries, could not be reached for comment last night.

In an August 1994 letter written by PA Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashibi to the head of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconciliation (PECDAR), the agency handling the funds sent by the international community to the PA, Nashashibi writes that Arafat has decided that "the activity of the Palestinian National Authority should spread inside Israel and concentrate on the Arabs."

Another letter from the same month calls for the establishment of a company to purchase property in Jerusalem. According to the letter, Tibi is to be the head of the company.

During the summer, Tibi threatened to sue the weekly *Saar Al-Haq* Wa'i Hurriya, a paper of the Islamic Movement in Israel, for libel for publishing the letters mentioning Tibi as the dispenser of these funds inside Israel. The paper's lawyer, Mustafa Mahmood, responded to the threat in the paper's September issue, saying that the letters "originated in the upper echelons of the PA, and there is no room for doubt about their authenticity."

Four hurt on roads

FOUR people were injured, three of them seriously, in road accidents yesterday.

Neria Aharonov, 70, who disappeared from a Jaffa old age home on October 7, was run over by bus in Tel Aviv and was taken to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer in serious condition.

Two truck drivers were hurt, one seriously, when their vehicles collided at the Nahalal Junction, near Migdal Ha'emek. The other driver was moderately injured.

In Gedera, a 35-year-old Gaza man was seriously hurt when he was hit by a van while crossing the street. (Itm)

Former ZOA presidents blast Klein for opposing Israeli government's policies

HILLEL KUTLER
WASHINGTON

TWO former presidents of the Zionist Organization of America yesterday criticized the group's current leader for breaking with the Jewish community's historical consensus by opposing the policies of Israel's government.

Referring to ZOA's current president Morton Klein, Albeck Resnick and James Schiller of Baltimore said in a statement that "it is disheartening [that] ... the current ZOA administration" is denigrating Israeli policy and "succeeding in disuniting our people from each other and from Israel."

"The current lobbying efforts of the ZOA on Capitol Hill... represents a major policy change from this organization's entire previous history. We can no longer

remain silent in light of the damage to Israel and the community structure being caused by the current ZOA campaign."

Over the past two years, Klein has lobbied for Congress to hold hearings on dispatching US troops to the Golan Heights should an Israeli-Syrian accord be reached.

He has also pressed for tightening restrictions on US financial assistance to the Palestinians until the PA fulfills its commitments to Israel under the Oslo accords.

The attack by Resnick and Schiller is the latest incident to beset the ZOA under Klein's leadership. Last year, the organi-

zation's Baltimore chapter, considered its strongest, withdrew from the ZOA in a dispute over Klein's lobbying efforts.

Klein called the criticisms "sour grapes" brought on by his having defeated Schiller for the presidency two years ago, and said Schiller's remarks were "nothing new."

"All ZOA is doing is reflecting the views of 63 percent of American Jews in the American Jewish Committee poll opposing aid to the PLO. ... We don't think [PA chairman Yasser] Arafat should get money as long as he praises jihad via death. Once he complies and shows he is serious about peace, we will have no objections to aid to the Palestinians."

Ben-Eliezer fined in tax case

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair had decided there are no grounds for ordering the opening of a police investigation into suspicious raised against Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer that he avoided paying betterment tax for the purchase and sale of homes in Tel Aviv's Neveh Tzedek section.

Ben-Yair instead made do with requiring Ben-Eliezer to pay a fine. However, the Movement for Quality Government, which filed the complaint against the minister, noted that Ben-Yair refused to announce how much the fine was, but that an accountant they asked said it would be about NIS 7,000, compared to the NIS 61,000 in tax, including linkage, interest and the fine he should have paid. (Itm)

Kahane Chai activists convicted in 'pogrom'

FIVE Kahane Chai activists were convicted in Kfar Sava Magistrate's Court yesterday of vandalizing property in the Arab village of Kira in Samaria over three years ago, in an incident the judge described as a "pogrom." Four of them were given prison sentences, but will be allowed to do community service in lieu of imprisonment. (Itm)

THE Gaza Coast Regional Council announced yesterday it has established a group of former combat-unit soldiers to capture the alleged killers of Uri Megidish, who are said to be serving in the Palestinian Police.

"I welcome this initiative," said Sigal Megidish, the slain man's sister, who has been trying for nearly two years to get the government to pressure the Palestinian Authority to extradite the killers, Rajah and Amra Abu-Sita.

Megidish was stabbed in his greenhouse in Moshav Gan Or, in Gush Katif, in March 1993. Sigal Megidish met with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in

Taba last month, and showed him a videotape of the two men, in Palestinian Police uniform, admitting to the murder. Megidish said that after Peres showed the tape to Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader said the men would be kicked off the force and jailed. But according to Megidish and the Gaza Coast Regional Council, this has not happened.

"The Abu-Sita brothers are still in the Palestinian Police," council head Zvi Hendel said. "We set up a unit to find them and turn them over to the General Security Service or the IDF. I can't sit back and do nothing, while the killers of a friend, a good friend, are able to walk around freely."

Kahalani asked to quit TA posts

THE Tel Aviv branch of the Labor Party yesterday called on MK Avigdor Kahalani, who serves as deputy mayor and head of the Labor faction in City Council, to resign his municipal posts.

The branch, however, declined to expel Kahalani, although branch chairman MK Gideon Saguy said he can no longer continue keeping a leg in two camps - planning to establish a new Third Way party, and representing Labor in City Council. (Itm)

Winning cards and numbers

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 045522 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 700864 won a car. Tickets numbered 504067, 023126, 851071, 163640, 000257,

137401, 329541 and 724389 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 85044, 33783, 41762, 47617, 00617, 24573, 23592, 26236, 83035, 71016, 49636, 04512, 62646, 13167, 80074 33124, 92663, 88539 and 80222 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 111, 117, 738, 035; and 202 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 56, 49, 61, 80 and 55 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 0 and 7 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, ace of hearts, ten of diamonds, and jack of clubs.

In the weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3, 18, 23, 26, 45 and 48 and the additional number was 29.

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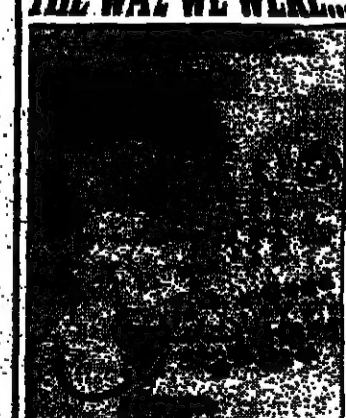
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US, Europe compromise on Middle East bank

AN economic summit in Amman this month will announce a compromise between Europe and the United States establishing two institutions to develop the Middle East, Israeli and US officials said yesterday.

Washington and several European states had argued over the necessity of a Middle East development bank, with the US backing the idea and some Europeans favoring a smaller institution channeling funds to the region.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters the creation of a Cairo-based regional development bank would be announced at the Amman summit.

A second financial institution is also to be created at the conference, formed from the "permanent secretariat" of an economic working group set up at the first Middle East development conference in Casablanca last year.

This Amman-based institution "will deal with specific projects and seek funds [elsewhere] without having a permanent fund," Economics Minister Yossi Beilin said.

US Ambassador Martin Indyk said the development bank would have an authorized capital of \$5 billion, with \$1.25b. in paid-up capital.

"These funds would be used to leverage resources that already exist in the private sector, the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, and various Arab Gulf funds," Indyk told Israeli businessmen.

Beilin said details of both institutions are still under negotiation and would be finalized in December.

An Israeli source said the US is opposed to having two permanent financing institutions in the region, but may drop its opposition by the time the development bank is set up in two years.

Talking about the summit, Israeli and US officials said it would focus on business and not politics, unlike Casablanca.

"Casablanca was the opening up of relations with our neighbors. It was the death of the Arab boycott," Beilin said. "In Amman we do business."

More than 60 countries will be represented at the three-day conference starting on October 29.

Indyk said Israel's role in the region's development must be a balanced one.

"Israel's large and dynamic economy, advanced industries, and highly skilled workforce are both attractive and intimidating to your Arab neighbors," he said. (Reuters)

Peres suggests locating major infrastructure in Jordan

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres, elaborating on his vision of Israel at peace, said yesterday he envisions much of the country's infrastructure being located outside its borders.

Addressing business leaders in preparation for the Amman economic conference, Peres said Israel's shrinking size makes every piece of land highly valuable. He advocated placing much of the country's infrastructure, including the planned development of a canal, railroad line, and superhighway, in neighboring Jordan, which is five times bigger than Israel.

"Suddenly, any piece of land becomes vitally important to this country," he said. "Money comes and goes. Land goes and it's no longer there."

STEVE RODAN

Peres said that in contrast to his government, Jordan has already expressed interest in having many of the public works projects being planned constructed within the Hashemite kingdom.

"I am not excited that roads will criss-cross Israel from other countries," he said. "We have enough road accidents. I don't see any potential in this."

As a result, Peres said, the government should aim to keep as much basic infrastructure as possible outside the borders of Israel. This would include airports, oil terminals, railroad lines, and major highways.

The foreign minister said he supports the construction of a joint Eilat-Akaba airport, which

would be situated on both sides of the Israeli-Jordanian border. He said this is one of the best projects being presented at the Amman conference.

Peres said he is not concerned that should war erupt with the Arab states, Israel would be left without basic infrastructure.

"If war comes we will deal with it," he said.

"Where will the lion come - from Jordan, Egypt? We have peace with them."

"We are leading Israel down the route of peace," Peres added. "Nobody will slow down the pace."

Israel, Jordan, the Palestinians, and Egypt have agreed on at least seven joint development projects in such areas as tourism and linking electricity grids.

Free tourist area to include Eilat, Akaba, Taba

EILAT, Akaba, and Taba are to become a free tourist area, in which visitors can move freely from one country to another without border formalities, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday.

He was speaking at a symposium in preparation for the Amman Conference. He added that Israeli officials have already discussed the plan with US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

However, in a meeting between Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan, Baram cited the planned "Red Sea Riviera" - which is to include Israel, Jordan, and Egypt - as one of two projects in which the Jordanians have not cooperated.

Baram said the Jordanians have not contributed

their share of the planning costs, some \$5 million.

Hassan replied that next week the foreign and tourism ministers of the three countries would meet to reach an agreement as to how to carry out the project.

Baram also said the Jordanians have not been cooperating on "the lowest park in the world" on both sides of the border at the Dead Sea, because they said Jordan does not have sufficient hotel accommodations in the area. On this issue, Hassan replied that a joint Israel-Jordanian team would begin planning the park, access to it, and its attractions. At the same time, he said, the Jordanians would begin building four hotels at the Dead Sea.

Haim Shapiro

International donors pledge \$300 million for Palestinians

PARIS (AP) - International donors pledged \$300 million in aid for the Palestinian Authority at a meeting organized by the World Bank in Paris yesterday.

The aid is part of a five-year, \$2.4 billion package promised by donors after the Palestinian Liberation Organization and Israel

signed the peace agreement in Washington in Sept. 1993.

Approximately \$800 million, or one-third, of the total has already been disbursed.

The remainder had been delayed pending the signing of an interim agreement in late September laying out conditions of



A police dog shows he can do more than detective tricks at the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds yesterday. (Yossi Zelig/UPPA)

Weizman has curt words with brother of fallen soldier

BATSHEVA TSUR

AN unpleasant exchange occurred yesterday when President Ezer Weizman paid a condolence visit in Ashdod to one of the two local families of soldiers who fell in Lebanon in two bombing incidents during Succot.

"I am fed up with this country," said Itzik Ivgi, brother of Staff Sgt. Reuven Ivgi, who was killed in a roadside bomb blast on October 12.

"I don't want to work here," he said, replying to a question from Weizman as to why he had gone to live in New York.

"That is your right... I came to speak with your mother. You can go back to [your job in] the New York fish market," Weizman responded curtly.

The president added that he would like to see less criticism of the commanders in the field until the IDF has a chance to fully investigate the two incidents.

"What we have to do is to ensure that the IDF remains strong," the president added, according to Israel Radio.

While in Ashdod, Weizman also visited the family of Capt. Yossi Ohana, the Golan commander killed earlier this week when his armored personnel carrier ran over a mine.

During the week, the president called on several of the families of the nine soldiers killed in the incidents. Today he is due to visit two more families and wounded at Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

Shetreet: Cancel health law

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet yesterday called on the cabinet to recommend the cancellation of the National Health Insurance Law which, he said, has proved a colossal failure.

At a press conference, he proposed compulsory health insurance as an alternative, saying it would reduce the current health tax by more than 50 percent.

But Histadrut chairman Haim Ramon, who pushed the law through when he was health minister, dismissed Shetreet's proposal as an attempt to boost his chances in the Labor primaries. He said the health system is better today than ever before, and that the lines for heart surgery have been eliminated.

Shetreet's initiative also took Health Minister Ephraim Sneh by surprise. He said the law is good in principle, but added he would act to correct its flaws.

"Labor will be judged in the elections by its mistakes," Shetreet said, "and one of the biggest mistakes made by this government is the health law. It has reduced health services and standards, increased the price of medicine, and multiplied health fees threefold for middle-income people. The law's application has failed in every way - people are paying much more and getting less. We can't afford to let this failure continue."

Unless Labor recognizes its error and corrects it, the voters will punish it at the polls, he added.

The law has plunged the health system into a deficit estimated at NIS 3.5 billion, due to delays in collecting the health tax and transferring it to the health funds, and the NIS 2b. in compensation to employers, Shetreet said.

Ichilov Hospital director Gabi Barabash said the problem is not in the law but in its implementation, which has caused a deficit due to the Treasury's mistake in estimating its costs and the delay in transferring money to the health funds and state hospitals.

He noted that the government has limited the services the hospitals provide, giving them even less money than in the pre-health law days, "and the long lines we knew a few years ago are back."

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For early elections

LABOR Party officials have been raising the possibility that the Knesset elections should be advanced to the spring. Their reasons, judiciously leaked to supportive commentators, are varied. An early election would give splinter movements which may draw votes from Labor less time to organize and campaign. If the elections are held before the summer, they believe, neither the Third Way, nor Histadrut leader Haim Ramon, nor Natan Sharansky will have enough time to field an effective list.

They also seem to feel that, as election time nears, the government's hairline majority will make Labor vulnerable to extortion by the small parties which keep the coalition alive. This may reach an intolerable point when the state budget comes up for approval. All the small parties - and even some members of the Labor Party itself - will undoubtedly try to get whatever they can from a government with a tenuous majority which depends on every vote.

There are those, too, who feel that a confluence of events in winter will give Labor a political advantage. If the Palestinian elections are held peacefully, the PLO Covenant is repealed, and the PLO and Hamas reach an understanding which will end terrorism, the government will be virtually unbeatable. The two factors which influence voters more than any other - personal safety and economic conditions - would be ensured, and Labor could ride to victory on a platform of peace and prosperity.

Some supporters of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin add to these considerations the assumption that an early election will prevent Foreign Minister Shimon Peres from mounting a credible challenge to Rabin's leadership. And there are those who feel that, for an aging leadership challenged by the Likud's young leader Binyamin Netanyahu, even a six-month difference can be meaningful.

In parliamentary democracies governments often take advantage of their prerogative to call an early election. Completing the allotted term is hardly a hallowed tradition. In fact, since the previous government fell before completing its tenure, the current government's period of four years in power will end in July. It will not be construed as a sign of weakness if it calls for an election in May. On the contrary. A move made on the wave of policy successes can create a momentum of success at the polls.

Yet yesterday Rabin and Peres and party secretary-general Nissim Zivili vehemently denied intentions to advance the elections. As Peres put it, "We have a majority, and we were elected for four years. There is no reason to make it shorter."

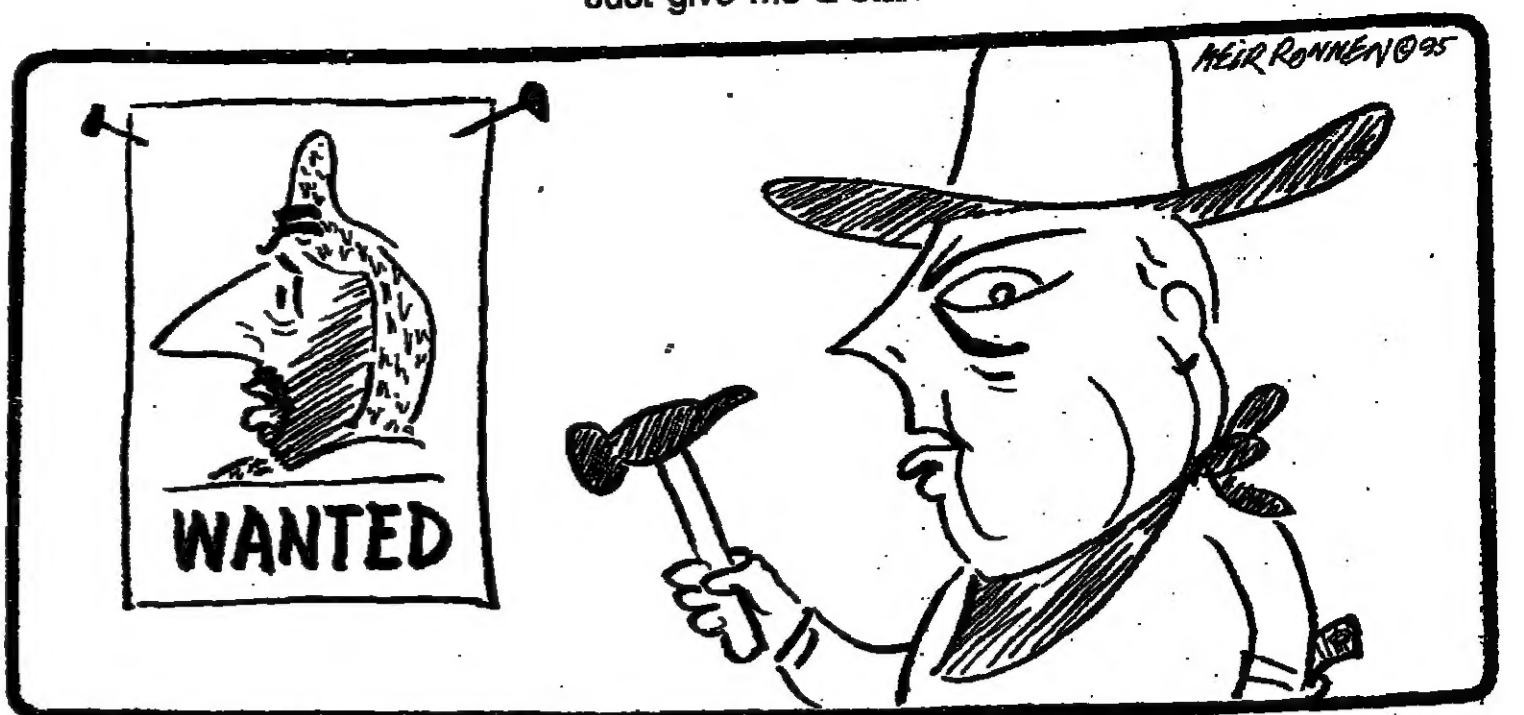
The Labor leaders' reluctance to go to the polls is as understandable as it is reasonable. No election result, particularly here, can be safely predicted. It may be foolhardy to trade the certainty of staying in power until November for the uncertainty of an election in May. The government may also believe it can make impressive progress both in the peace process and the economic sphere in the coming year, which should improve its prospects at the polls.

Yet there is one argument for advancing the election which should outweigh all other considerations. The decisions confronting the country are momentous. They will determine the national destiny for generations to come. To continue making fateful steps with the support of only a tiny majority in the Knesset is to invite frustration, demoralization, and polarization. This is particularly true because Labor's platform and Rabin's own election promises failed to prepare Israelis for the developments in Oslo and the proposed evacuation of the Golan.

Now that there is little doubt about Labor's direction, it is time to give the public an opportunity to decide what it truly wants. Labor's contention that any parliamentary majority is legitimate is irrefutable, nor can there be any doubt about the government's legitimacy. But it would contribute greatly to national health and unity if Labor proves that its policies do indeed have the popular majority it claims they have.

And since the issues are sharply delineated at this point, it will be helpful if instead of threatening "street action" Labor and Likud agree on a short, three-week campaign and pass legislation to make it possible. What this country needs least at this point is a continuing escalation of invective and violence. What it needs most is a government with a clearly defined policy, elected with strong popular support.

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Government by steamroller

MOSHE ARENS

THE French National Convention decided, in January 1793, to send Louis XVI to the guillotine. That decision, taken by a one-vote majority, demonstrated the power of the majority, no matter how small, to make world-shaking decisions; but it is hardly considered a model for decision-making in modern democratic societies.

The accepted norm in Western democracies is that decisions of great importance and far-reaching impact require the support of a wide consensus, or at the very least a significant majority.

For example, the US constitution requires that amendments to it can be initiated only by a two-thirds majority and must be ratified by at least a three-quarters majority. Treaties signed by the president need a two-thirds majority in the Senate for ratification.

In Israel little attention has been paid to the question of the majority margins required for major Knesset decisions. Although changes to the "basic laws" passed by the Knesset require the consent of an absolute majority of MKs (at least 61 votes), all other Knesset votes are carried by a simple majority of the members present at the voting.

Thus, for example, the law for direct election of the prime minister - a profound change in Israel's form of government - was passed by a vote of 57-36, without even the support of an absolute majority of Knesset members.

As for treaty ratification, there is at present no legal requirement that the government present international treaties for Knesset approval, a cabinet decision being sufficient.

Menachem Begin set a precedent when he decided to bring the Camp David agreements for approval to the Knesset, a precedent that was followed by Yitzhak Rabin when he submitted the Oslo accords and the peace treaty with Jordan to a Knesset vote.

Rabin has made it clear that he considers a one-vote majority of those present and voting sufficient support for the policy he is pursuing regarding Judea and Samaria, and presumably also suffi-

Minister Peres and Arafat. Judea and Samaria, the heartland of the Jewish people's historical attachment to the Land of Israel, border on Israel's capital, Jerusalem, and on the other centers of population and economic activity.

In the opinion of many, loss of military control of these areas would seriously prejudice Israel's ability to defend itself. Moreover, turning these areas over to PLO control is bound to make

decisions of such vital national importance to be taken on the basis of such a razor-thin parliamentary margin, especially when opinion polls indicate that the majority of the public is opposed. It is a travesty of the democratic tradition.

The government really shouldn't be surprised at tens of thousands of citizens taking to the streets to vent their anger and frustration at the government's policies and its steamroller tactics. That some demonstrations would go beyond the strict limits of the law might have been expected, considering the unprecedented nature of the situation and the fact that many people feel Rabin's policies are endangering their lives and those of their children.

Rabin is clearly convinced that he is steering the country on the right course. His supporters claim there is no alternative to his stubborn pushing ahead, despite the absence of sufficient support.

But if democratic tradition and fair play are to be respected, there are two obvious alternatives to this blind arrogation of authority: compromise or early elections. The government's policies could be modified sufficiently to enlarge the base of support in the Knesset; or Rabin might in an election campaign attempt to persuade the public of the correctness of his policies, in the hope of being returned to the Knesset with an increased majority.

Pushing blindly ahead cannot be considered an alternative consistent with democratic government.

The writer is a former defense minister.

No other Western democracy would allow vital national decisions to be based on a one-vote majority

client for the approval of any agreements arrived at with Yasser Arafat.

Is a one-vote majority really sufficient when decisions having wide-ranging and long-range ramifications for the country have to be taken?

From a strictly legalistic viewpoint, as Israel's laws stand at the moment, the answer is yes. But it is doubtful that this limited mechanistic view is justified. As noted, the Western democratic tradition, after which we tend to pattern ourselves, requires a large majority in such cases.

the battle against terrorism a great deal more difficult.

Unlike the wide-ranging consensus that backed Begin's Camp David accords, Rabin's policies on Judea and Samaria - if opinion polls are to be believed - are not supported by a majority of Israelis. And yet, Rabin, assiduously pursues these policies, leaning on the one-vote majority he presently controls in the Knesset.

What's more, some government ministers, in anticipation of a Labor defeat in the next elections, even boast that it is their intention to create facts on the ground and cast them in concrete, so that no future government will be able to modify them, regardless of the will of the people.

It would be inconceivable in any other Western democracy for

Some are more equal than others

DAN LEON

HOW would we feel if, on the streets of New York or London, we saw a garbage truck with the words "Gentile Labor Only" written under the name and phone number of the owners?

Not long ago on the streets of Jerusalem, I saw such a vehicle with the proud proclamation "Only Jewish Labor" in bold letters. The same wording appeared in a newspaper ad for carpet cleaning, while the classified ad section of the local weekly *Yerushalayim* carries a column called *Avoda Ivrit* advertising private tutors and children's nannies (only for Jews?).

And, of course, one can't miss the slogan "Death to the Arabs" daubed on walls all over west Jerusalem.

The original concept of Hebrew labor, as expressed by the early Zionist pioneers, was directed against the exploitation of cheap Arab labor by colonial-type Jewish settlers. Within the framework of a Jewish state "as envisaged by the prophets of Israel" in our Declaration of Independence, we promised "complete equality of social and political rights to all inhabitants, irrespective of religion, race, or sex." Israeli law forbids all forms of racial discrimination.

The current peace process is meant to bring about "separation" from the Palestinians, but not from our Arab citizens. Blanket racist slogans denigrate the one-sixth of Israel's citizens who are Arabs. A decade from now they will probably constitute one fifth of Israelis. (In defining who they are, they prefer the term "Palestinian Arabs, citizens of Israel" to the customary "Israeli Arabs.")

While 99.9 percent have never harmed Israel's security, recent research indicates that only a third of the Jews think the Arabs are loyal citizens. Thus, in a recent TV

debate, MK Rafael Eitan could refer, without being challenged, to the "so-called Israeli Arabs."

IS THERE complete equality, or only so-called equality, for these 880,000 mainly Israeli-born citizens? Though Arab MKs have been democratically elected, it is widely claimed that important policy decisions can only be taken by a "Jewish majority." The Sephardi chief rabbi has confirmed the hal-

vored exerting pressure on Israeli Arabs to leave the country, and 39.4 percent supported violence against them in response to acts of Arab terror. In both categories, there was more support from the religious than from the secular.

Burg's conclusion was that "all surveys and research projects in recent years show with frightening consistency an increase in racism."

I remember, many years ago, the owner of a small Galilee fac-

torily the equalization of social security grants for children - will narrow the severe economic gap, the fruit of years of open and concealed discrimination.

Will the peace process foster rapprochement between Israel's Jewish and Arab citizens? If more peaceful conditions bring more security, will they also help put an end to discrimination? Will it be recognized that in a peace-oriented, democratic, pluralistic society, Arab citizens are entitled to be both different and equal, to maintain loyalty both to their country and to their people?

A negative answer implies that peace or war, the "threat" is permanent and immutable.

This continuing use, or rather misuse, of the "security factor" to perpetuate inequality for the "so-called Israeli Arabs" may at first sight look primarily detrimental to them rather than to us. But aside from its political ramifications, it projects no less on the moral values of a "Jewish state" as envisaged by the prophets of Israel.

It shows how we Israelis, who know so much discrimination in our own history, see ourselves and others as we approach our 50th anniversary.

The writer is co-managing editor of the Palestine-Israel Journal.

The 'security factor' is misused to discriminate against Israeli Arabs

chic rolling of the chief rabbi of Safed, that it is forbidden for a Jew to sell land or an apartment to an "alien."

Some 50 percent of Arab families live under the poverty line, compared to 8 percent of Jewish families. There is no Arab cabinet minister or Supreme Court justice, and Arabs account for only about 1 percent of the civil service. Their schools still lag behind those of the Jews. Landlords refuse to rent rooms to Arab students at the Hebrew University.

All these random observations refer to Israeli Arabs, not to Palestinians from the occupied territories, which is a different tale.

Avraham Burg, then chairman of the Knesset Education Committee, declared in 1992 that "we can no longer ignore the fact that there is racism and xenophobia in Israel similar to what is going on in Germany and France." He subsequently apologized for the comparison, but not for publicizing the Telesurvey in which 60 percent of the sample of 501 Israeli Jews agreed with the comparison, 28.3 percent slightly or heavily fa-

torily telling me that he didn't employ Arabs "for security reasons." His factory was producing not Sten guns, but buttons. To this day, the security factor still limits Arabs' employment possibilities. Though in absolute terms the Arab sector has made progress in the economic and other spheres, it still conspicuously lags behind the Jewish sector.

Resource allocations to the Arab sector by the present government have more than doubled since 1992, and the authorities hope that such policies - particu-

POSTSCRIPT

MORE THAN 50 years after Nazis tattooed numbers on Freida Freidman's arm, the IDF gave her grandson a nearly identical serial number.

The soldier, Golan Freidman, said he was staring at his grandmother's arm during dinner recently and nearly fell off the chair when he saw the faded blue number 30076.

The infantryman said his own seven-digit serial number ended

in 3076, just one zero off his grandmother's.

"The similarity is awesome. I felt goose bumps all over my body," Golan, 22, said.

"I think my husband is looking down on all this from above and laughing at the Germans. This number they gave me... winds up as my grandson's number in the army, the army of the Jewish people," Freida said.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAMP DAVID MISQUOTED

Sir, - Mr. Begin is not the father of the illegitimate child born in Oslo. Abba Eban (*The Jerusalem Post*, October 12), is misquoting the Camp David accords in order to sanctify the Oslo failure. He does it by adding a Palestinian title on every occasion when the right of the inhabitants of Judea and Samaria are mentioned. He calls the self-governing authority (administrative council) the Palestinian self-governing authority and this is a distortion; there is nothing in the Camp David accords like a Palestine police - there is only a strong local police force. The omission of names, like Palestinian police and Palestinian authority was done intentionally in the Camp David Accords. The Palestinian authority means a body containing all Palestinians while an administrative council is not including Arafat, Abu Ala and Jibril Rajoub because they were not inhabitants of Judea and Samaria and not entitled to be elected or to vote to the administrative council.

The sole mention of Palestinian people in the Camp David accords is not with a capital "P," which means Nation, but "people," in plural, "and their just requirements" (and not *as* inhabitants and not *as* nation).

And there is no wonder that the PLO had rejected the Camp David agreement while endorsing the Oslo Declaration of Principles. Only Peres is entitled to fatherhood of a Palestinian state and Mr. Eban should not deprive Mr. Peres of this honor.

YEHIEL KADISHAI
Tel Aviv.

DISSATISFIED READER

Sir, - Although I am a regular subscriber to *The Jerusalem Post* and will continue to be so as I am a member of your captive audience, I have several complaints. First, you are too far to the right and religiously-oriented for my taste. Your Friday paper and the magazine are a complete disaster. The only part readable over the weekend is the TV schedule, which now and then is incorrect. Frankly, if there were another English paper, I would buy it.

Of all your writers, the only ones worth reading, for me, are Dore Gold, Yossi Goeil, Neil Cohen and D'vora Ben Shaul. I am sure you would appreciate a more middle-of-the-road paper.

J. FEINGOLD
Haifa.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

Sir, - In her report of September 12, "High Court hears Klingsberg appeal," Judy Siegel-Itzkovich refers to the adverse publicity evoked on the subject of Dr. Marcus Klingsberg by the letter from Ruhama Maron (Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights) which appeared in the widely read *British Medical Journal* on August 26. Maron's appeal for clemency entitled "Israel refuses amnesty for dying physician," ostensibly motivated by concern for Dr. Klingsberg, is one of a series of anti-Israel diatribes which have appeared under the guise of human rights in the *BMJ*, emanating from this source.

In "Personal View," an article was published two weeks later in the *BMJ* of September 9, written with the same objective on an apparently unrelated topic, "Raising boys to maintain armies," from which I quote: "Jewish Israeli boys are made aware of their future role as warriors from early childhood. The boy soldier is given a gun, literally the power to kill... The loss of young men is less costly than that of more experienced workers or of people supporting and raising families. This is obviously inadmissible and the opposite view is standardly intoned by officials mourning dead soldiers as the loss of our very best." This was written by Rela Mazali, "a medical writer in Israel," whose previous contribution to this august journal was a vitriolic letter (in 1994) on "Health in Israeli-occupied territories" by Rela Mazali, of the Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights.

It is ironic that these attacks should be disseminated when Israel is extending major assistance and cooperation (especially in the medical field) to the Palestinians.

JEAN KLOOSE-FISHMAN
Beersheba.

SHOCKING

Sir, - The evidence for a direct link between smoking and various types of cancer and heart disease has become practically irrefutable. The photograph published in *The Jerusalem Post* of October 11 showing Prime Minister Rabin with a cigarette in his mouth was shocking. Could it be that he values his leadership of the country so little that he is willing to risk it for the momentary pleasure that smoking may offer?

To the young people weighing a decision whether to adopt this somewhat inelegant habit, the example set by our leader might have a negative effect.

L. P. HORWITZ
Ra'anana.

PRISONER RELEASE

Sir, - Following the formal signing of the Tabu Agreement on September 28 in Washington between the PLO and Israel, the expectation was for the immediate release of all female Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails, the emphasis being on a full and not partial release.

Palestinians see no logic whatsoever behind President Ezer Weizman's decision to effectively block the release of all women prisoners. It appears that the undeclared reason behind this could be that on several occasions, the president of Israel advised his government to suspend the peace negotiations. His advice was not heeded by the Israeli government, therefore he is using this negative power at his disposal to hinder the implementation of the peace process.

If the Israeli government cannot honor its signature and comply with the text and spirit of the terms of the agreement which came under the glowing title "confidence-building measures," then why sign it and why shatter the confidence-building measures while in the initial stages? What could have been a joyous Palestinian occasion has turned sour; this is not helping the peace process.

WALID M. AWAD,
Executive Director,
Palestinian Institute of Management
Ramallah.

BIASED VIEW

Sir, - Tzion Ha-Habayit's letter of September 27 regarding the appointment of Ali Yichya to the post of Israel's ambassador to Finland is regrettably indicative of the highly biased, preconceived notions many chauvinistically inclined Israeli Jews have regarding Israeli Arab citizens. As it happens, Ali - teacher, educator and much beloved friend of thousands of Ulpan Akiva (Netanya) students - personifies the very best values one could expect of a proud Israeli.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to be congratulated on this most fitting appointment.

ABRAHAM FRANK
Ramat Gan.

OVERWORK

Sir, - The Health Ministry has strict guidelines as to the number of hours a hospital physician may be continuously responsible for patients without a break. How can we expect our 72-year-old foreign minister to be in complete control after five days and nights of nearly continuous negotiations?

MICHAEL WILSCHANSKY, MBBS
Elazar.

50 מיליון ל"ל

Through the back door

SHLOMO AVINERI

CROATIA will hold early parliamentary elections on October 29. These were called in the wake of the two successful military operations in May and August which reintegrated the previously Serb-held areas of Western Slavonia and Krajina.

In the hasty legislative process initiated in the Sabor by President Franjo Tudjman's HDZ party - a number of significant changes were introduced in the electoral law. Some of these are purely technical, for example, the change in the proportion of seats elected on national lists and those by districts; and raising the minimum threshold for parties to win seats in parliament.

But two clauses in the new law relate to various aspects of ethnic representation, and will have far-reaching consequences for the nature of the Croatian state and its political culture. They also have international ramifications.

Since independence, Croatia has granted citizenship and voting rights to ethnic Croats living permanently abroad - the Croatian diaspora, which has been instrumental in the struggle for Croatian independence, and supplied the nascent state (as well as Tudjman's HDZ) with significant financial support.

Around 80,000 of these diaspora Croats participated in the 1992 parliamentary elections, and although opposition parties in Croatia claim that most of them voted for HDZ and thus helped the governing party, there is nothing unusual in this as such.

The new law, however, created a completely new system for institutionalizing diaspora representation in parliament in a rather unusual way. According to the new law, 12 out of the 127 seats in the Sabor will now be reserved for diaspora representatives, who will be elected from special worldwide lists. In this new system, almost 10 percent of the parliamentary seats will thus be elected by people who do not live in Croatia and also hold citizenship of other countries.

This is without precedent in other democratic countries, and it raises serious questions about the meaning of representation, citizenship and sovereignty. Some of these representatives will not only be elected by people living abroad, but will themselves be residents - and citizens - of other countries like Canada, Germany, or Australia.

No other country with a significant diaspora - such as Greece or Israel - has a similar law guaran-

teeing a number of seats for diaspora members. That these seats amount to almost 10 percent of the total means that this is not only symbolic representation, but may, under certain circumstances, decide the composition of the government, or the passage of legislation.

THE ISSUE becomes even more complicated, and delicate, if one examines the composition of the diaspora voting list. According to official data supplied by the Croatian authorities responsible for organizing the elections, the diaspora voting list currently has about 350,000 names on it. Of these, 291,000 are ethnic Croats living in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They are also citizens of that country.

The Croat authorities plan to set up polling stations in at least 29 cities on Bosnian territory, and the government of President Izetbegovic, dependent as it is on Croatian military support, is not exactly in a position to refuse.

The internal logic of reserving 10 percent of parliamentary seats for Croats living abroad thus becomes clear: Contrary to what one may have initially thought, it is not a way for people of Croat descent who live, say, in Canada or Australia, to maintain their links with their ancestral homeland. The intention is completely different: It is to move, through the back door, one step further in the direction of integrating, de facto, Croat-populated areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina into the Republic of Croatia proper. In Israel we would call it "creeping annexation."

It is another step toward realizing, through the apparently innocuous means of "diaspora representation," the dream of a "Greater Croatia," and of dividing Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In the present stage of delicate negotiations about peace in the former Yugoslavia, this unilateral step, achieved through legislation apparently dealing merely with elections, is actually creating new political facts. It is playing with fire, and could contribute to fur-

ther destabilization in the region. Another aspect of the changes in the electoral law deals with the representation of the Serb population living in Croatia, and is the mirror image of the legislation concerning the Croatian diaspora. Minorities living in Croatia have a right of guaranteed representation in parliament.

The old electoral law granted the Serbs living in Croatia 13 seats in the Sabor. The new law has cut this number to three, based on the argument that this is proportionate to the number of Serbs who remained in Croatia after most of the Serb population fled the Krajina area during the Croat capture of it in August.

This may be true, though there are no reliable census data. But there is an ominous political subtext here.

In a number of recent international agreements, Croatia has committed itself to allowing the return of Serb refugees within a general peace agreement. The decrease of Serbian representation to a mere three implies that the Croatian authorities do not think the refugees will return, nor that some seats should be left open for them if and when they do return.

This is, in a way, setting a legal seal on Croatia as being a virtually "ethnically pure" state, legitimizing the demographic changes which resulted from the recent fighting and massive exodus of Serbs from Krajina.

Anyone familiar with the complexity of Serbian-Croat relations over the centuries knows that neither side comes blameless out of this sorry tale. Both sides have their stories, and there is enough truth in both versions to refrain from easy judgments.

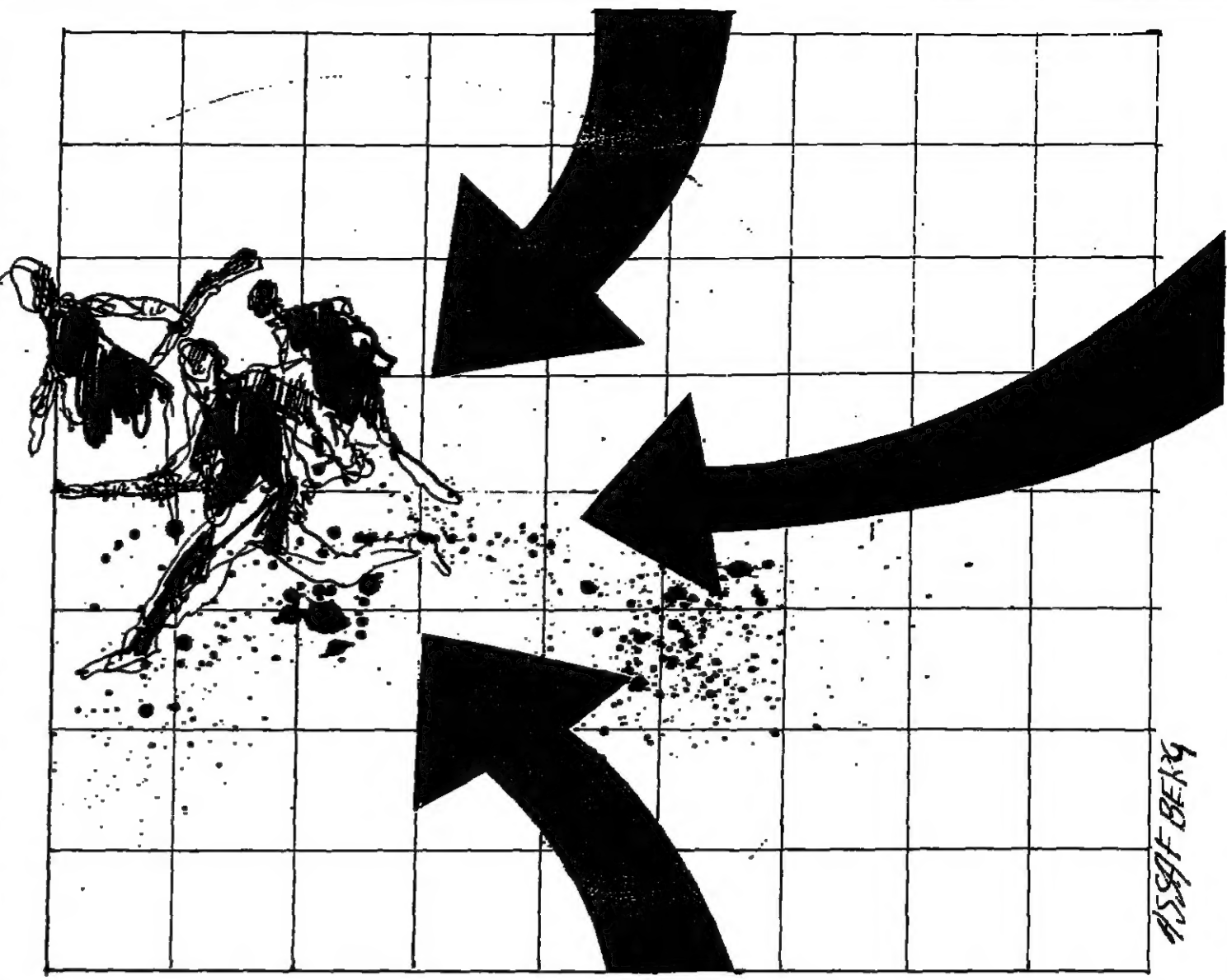
There is, however, no doubt that during 1991-4, Croats - in Croatia as well as in Bosnia - were victims of brutal Serb aggression and ethnic cleansing.

The recent changes in the Croatian electoral law however suggest that when the current Croatian government had to choose between universal norms of equality and citizenship, and the dream of an ethnically "pure" Greater Croatia, it unfortunately decided on the latter.

This is not a way into Europe. It evokes too many unpleasant echoes of the past.

The writer, a professor at the Hebrew University, visited Croatia with a group of experts to study recent election legislation.

Behind a new electoral law lies the dream of 'Greater Croatia'



New style of battle in Lebanon

ARIEL SHARON

LET us withdraw with dignity, don't stone us," said a senior IDF officer to PLO terrorists in Samaria, pleading for his and his soldiers' safety.

"Please ask the Syrians to tell Hizbullah not to harm our soldiers," was the government's appeal to the US administration.

Oh, Arabs, be merciful, show compassion!

Responding with scorn, the Arabs continued flinging rocks, cursing, and accompanying the IDF's retreat with shots fired in the air. The Syrians encouraged Hizbullah to launch more murderous attacks in the South Lebanon security zone.

They did this while "not deviating from the agreement reached after 'Operation Accountability'," as the prime minister constantly reiterates.

According to him, Hizbullah acts "correctly" - it does not violate the agreement. It just goes on killing our men. And the latest incident, he asserted, did not go beyond what was agreed with Hizbullah, because the agreement allows the organization to do whatever it can manage to do in the security zone.

The premier's remarks even contained a veiled accusation against the army's proficiency. What he hasn't complained about is the security policy, determined by the political leadership, for which he is directly responsible.

The Northern Command is indeed in the midst of hard battles in wild and mountainous terrain, covered with tangled bushes and fearful rocks. It shows great resourcefulness and acts energetically, but our excellent soldiers are generally restricted to defensive actions in the face of the terrorist organiza-

tions' initiatives.

Within the existing political limitations, the IDF has already done almost everything it can. Now the government - whose policy in South Lebanon has so far caused many IDF casualties - must re-examine its direction. This war is difficult, but it, too, can be won.

Approaching Washington about Hizbullah actions in Lebanon forces dependency on the Syrians and needless political concessions.

difficult for the IDF and the South Lebanon Army to defend the security zone. That's how important domestic politics was for them.

In the Lebanon war the huge PLO military infrastructure in South Lebanon was destroyed, and its forces and command posts in Beirut expelled. As a result, settlements in northern Israel lived in peace for about 10 years. Residents who had left out of fear of the Katyushas returned, and Gal-

gunmen and those of the Palestinian terrorist groups, but it isn't allowed to take necessary action.

The Northern Command comprises excellent units and the best IDF commanders. Great initiative is employed, but most of it is in the security zone, and only a small proportion beyond its borders.

This method of point-by-point activity can hurt the enemy, but it cannot change the situation. The defensive strategy dictated by the government has failed, and the IDF has now really plunged into a morass.

To change the situation, we must get the terrorists off balance. They mustn't be allowed to rest even for a single moment. Situations must be made to change daily. The terrorists must become the pursued, instead of the pursuers.

We aren't talking about an all-out war, but the transition to a new style of fighting, an operational activity that must be implemented in varied, shifting ways. Threatening moves must be made in the enemy's rear, forces landed along his flanks; seizing the Litani bridges from time to time, even if only temporarily; using the Air Force and artillery to chase away the population cooperating with the terrorists against us; blocking traffic on the main arteries; methodical attack on every terrorist target by the IAF and the Navy.

The first objective is to distance the Katyushas from our northern communities. Then the IDF's hands will be freed to act against Hizbullah and the Palestinian terrorist groups with suitable methods. We must immediately move into an attacking mode.

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

The terrorists must become the pursued instead of the pursuers

This is also true about the pleas to Arafat to act against terror. They represent still another loss of Israel's deterrent capability. It is a sure recipe for additional attacks. If it continues, it will be a prescription for war.

lee blossomed again. At the same time, the IDF and SLA suffered many casualties because of the narrowness of the zone, which should have extended to the Litani River.

THE GOVERNMENT headed by Shimon Peres and with Yitzhak Rabin as defense minister, which was so proud of getting out of the Lebanon "morass," never actually left Lebanon. It ordered a withdrawal to the security zone largely identical with that which existed in South Lebanon on the eve of the Peace for Galilee war. It did this for internal political considerations, to demonstrate that the war was allegedly superfluous, the proof being that we were back in the same pre-war positions.

This was done despite the fact that the zone was too narrow and Galilee was thus endangered by possible Katyusha shelling. Peres and Rabin chose this route even though they knew it would make it

And the IDF? It is prevented from harming civilian settlements under the "agreement of understandings." It sees the Hizbullah

How to win voter-appeal

YOSEF GOELL

LABOR hawks identified with the nascent Third Way movement are scheduled to meet next week to declare themselves a new party.

But is there any justification for yet another party, when the division between Labor and the Likud is so stark, seemingly offering voters a clear choice?

Several media commentators have come out against the initiative, saying that there are only two ways to go regarding the future of the territories and of the diplomatic process with the Palestinians and our other Arab enemies: Labor's

underline that argument, voting for the Likud means not only opting for the unproven Benjamin Netanyahu, but for a coalition with Rehavam Ze'evi and the other far-right crazies, and for Ariel Sharon as defense minister.

But does the Third Way stand a chance in the rough-and-tumble of real politics, or will it repeat the experience of the Democratic Movement for Change after the 1977 elections?

THE POLLS have been giving the Third Way four or five Knesset seats in the next elections. But anything less than winning enough seats to balance out the bloc of religious parties would constitute failure, since in such an event neither of the two major parties would be dependent on the Third Way. This means the Third Way needs a breakthrough of DMC proportions - at least 15 seats.

Moreover, under the new rules of direct election of the premier, any party aspiring to such a breakthrough in its Knesset strength must also appear to be serious enough to run its own candidate for premier. Otherwise, voters simply won't take its political prospects seriously enough. Running a separate candidate will also be essential to stop either Rabin or Netanyahu winning in the first round.

Which brings us to the Third Way's major weakness: It hasn't yet come up with a persuasive candidate, an attractive standard bearer. Neither Avigdor Kahalani nor former chief of staff Dan Shomron seems to fit that bill.

Another major weak point is the narrowness of the Third Way's political agenda. Crucial as issues like the Golan, Jerusalem, and the extent of territorial compromise on the West Bank may be, they provide too narrow a focus for a full-fledged national party hoping to win sufficient votes to give it an impact on the next government. Winning 15 seats requires getting close to 360,000 votes - not totally impossible, but a challenge of major proportions.

The Third Way must also broaden its appeal - for example, to women and pensioners, two large sectors of the electorate who have good reason to be turned off by both major parties. Another possible target could be the English-speaking voters so recently rebuffed by Rabin.

The Third Way's founding conference next week would be broadcasting its political wisdom if it postponed the unavoidably divisive act of choosing its standard bearer to the spring. What it needs to concentrate on for now is broadening its appeal.

The writer comments on public affairs.

The Third Way needs a candidate for premier, and to reach out to women, pensioners and 'Anglo-Saxons'

or the Likud's. They argue that a new party will only obfuscate the political debate.

Had the two major parties, when they came to power, actually carried out the policies they espoused during election campaigns, this argument would hold water.

But in the last elections, Labor under Yitzhak Rabin openly espoused the Third Way policy of negotiating peace, but no way giving up the Golan Heights to Syria; and of reaching a compromise with the Palestinians far short of the one worked out in Oslo 1 and 2.

Once elected by a razor-thin majority, however, Rabin proceeded to ditch his previously vowed policies and betray voters who had been foolish enough to trust a party that had chosen him as a front for the unpopular Shimon Peres and the policies he and Labor's doves represent.

It is thus essential that a large part of an electorate which feels betrayed be given a real third alternative, since so many continue to view the Likud as unpalatable. To

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בית הספר לשפות
ללמוד בשכל! לימודי החוץ של האוניברסיטה הכתומה

Croatian president promises not to retake Serb land

ZAGREB (AP) — The president of Croatia has told a US envoy that he will not launch an offensive to retake Serb-held land, a development that could lessen the danger of a wider Balkan war.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke traveled to Zagreb to persuade Croatian leaders not to ruin crucial Bosnian peace talks by ordering troops to retake the last slice of Croatian territory occupied by rebel Serbs.

President Franjo Tudjman expressed hope for a peaceful settlement of disputed claims to the territory, known as eastern Slavonia, Holbrooke said after the meeting.

"President Tudjman assured us that while he retains his right to use whatever means he thinks are necessary to deal with the problem, there will not be fighting in eastern Slavonia," the US envoy said.

Croatia's army retook other Serb-held territory in blitz attacks in May and August, ignoring warnings from Western countries

not to do so. Serbs had occupied about one-third of Croatia in the country's 1991 war of secession from Yugoslavia.

Widespread reports of atrocities against minority Serbs after the August offensive raised concerns that the Yugoslav federal army could intervene to protect them if Croatia attacked again.

The United States has issued stern warnings to Tudjman against attacking.

In a final round of diplomacy before peace talks at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, later this month, Holbrooke also urged Tudjman to help stabilize a shaky, week-old truce in Bosnia.

"The US government believes that a cease-fire is a cease-fire," Holbrooke said. "It is time now for the fighting to stop and for the talks to begin."

Croatian troops have been involved in the Bosnia fighting, in alliance with the Moslem-led government.



Town Crier Cyril Richardson of Walsall in central England announces outside the Houses of Parliament his victory in the European Court against the British government over sex discrimination in prescription charges. The court ruled that men are now entitled to free prescriptions from the age of 60, the same as women. (AP)

Yeltsin signals Kozyrev to go

MOSCOW (Reuters) — President Boris Yeltsin, taking a tough line before a US-Russian summit, blasted NATO expansion plans yesterday and signalled he will dismiss Foreign Minister Anatoly Kozyrev who has helped forged ties with the West.

Yeltsin, in wide-ranging comments to reporters in the Kremlin before Monday's meeting with US President Bill Clinton in New York, kept up Russia's resistance to joining a peace-keeping force in Bosnia under NATO command.

He also said he would resist any NATO plans to post nuclear arms close to Russia's borders if it expands to Eastern Europe, but he still hoped he and Clinton would be able to keep Russian-US ties on track at their summit.

"We propose a European security system which would exclude the expansion of NATO and the presence of nuclear weapons into the countries of Eastern and Central Europe," said Yeltsin, looking robust and in fighting mood.

"This (the presence of nuclear weapons) is impermissible. There would again be two blocs."

Striking a more optimistic note, he added: "I am sure that after the meeting with Bill Clinton, we will find a way to agree (on this)."

Making clear he was deter-

mined to keep Russian-US ties on track, he said: "He wants this and I want it. We get on too well (to let ties deteriorate)."

Bosnia and NATO are expected to dominate Yeltsin's first summit with Clinton since the 64-year-old Kremlin chief had a mild heart attack in July. The last summit was in Moscow in May.

In a move likely to cause concern in Western capitals, Yeltsin made clear Kozyrev would be dismissed although no replacement had been named.

Kozyrev, 44, was appointed foreign minister in 1990 and helped build up ties with the West. He has lost favour after accusations in Moscow he let Russia be sidelined in policy-making over Bosnia.

"Kozyrev's departure will put foreign governments in a tizzy because they will take it as a signal of a change in policy," a Moscow-based Western diplomat said.

"But it need not mean a change of policy. The alternative is confrontation with the West and I don't think any rational Russian would accept that."

Yeltsin and Kozyrev were due to leave today for Paris where he will have talks with President Jacques Chirac. He will depart tomorrow for New York to attend the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations

before Monday's summit.

Differences over NATO expansion plans and former Yugoslavia have prompted politicians in Moscow and Washington to talk of strained ties. Some fear a return to Cold War tensions.

NATO is keeping its options open on the posting of troops and weapons in eastern and central Europe if it allows Russia's former communist partners in the region to join the alliance.

Russia is concerned NATO might eventually position nuclear weapons close to its western border.

"How can we — after going through the Cold War, 'Hot War' and Cold War, and then coming to partnership — now lose that partnership between Russia and the United States? This is impermissible," Yeltsin said.

Reiterating Russia's opposition to NATO expansion, he said Moscow might have to take "protective moves to prevent expansion." He gave no details.

Yeltsin said the creation of an international peace-keeping force for Bosnia would be a key subject at Monday's summit.

He reiterated that Russia hoped to take part but could not do so under NATO command. Moscow wants a joint or rotating command and says it cannot afford to contribute many troops.

Lebanese president's term extended

BEIRUT (AP) — Parliament yesterday gave pro-Syrian President Elias Hrawi an unprecedented three more years in office to oversee post-war reconstruction and peace talks with Israel.

The extension had been widely expected after President Hafez Assad of Syria, the undisputed power in Lebanon, decreed last week that he wanted his close ally, a 68-year-old Maronite Catholic, to stay on as head of state.

Opponents branded the extension a threat to democracy in a country struggling to rise from the ashes of the war. Anti-Syrian leaders in exile denounced the vote as an unwarranted violation of Lebanon's sovereignty by Syria, which has some 40,000 troops controlling most of the country.

Still, legislators voted 111-10 to amend Article 49 of Lebanon's constitution and provide for the one-time extension five weeks before Hrawi's six-year term expires.

Seven deputies were absent during voting at the legislature in Beirut's devastated downtown district, a battleground during the 1975-90 civil war.

By extending Hrawi's mandate, the Syrians effectively bypassed the need for a potentially divisive presidential election by the 128-member parliament before its term expires next year.

Despite widespread opposition to the move in recent months, Assad's decision ensured a parliamentary majority well in excess of the two-thirds needed to amend the constitution.

Even most of the most virulent opponents fell in line after Assad let his wishes be known.

The largely pro-Syrian parliament and Cabinet Monday set the motion in train by appealing to Hrawi to accept to stay on. The president obliged immediately.

Hrawi was elected Nov. 24, 1989, two days after his predecessor, Rene Mouawad, was assassinated with 31 aides and guards in a car-bomb ambush in Beirut after only 17 days in office.

Hrawi has supervised Lebanon's multibillion-dollar post-war reconstruction.

Gathering of harmony a security nightmare

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

THE heads of state of 185 countries begin arriving in New York today, virtually all of them bringing domestic baggage that promises a security nightmare.

The presidents and premiers are here to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the UN. While they pay tribute to international harmony, American law enforcement authorities will dispatch an unprecedented force to protect the foreign dignitaries, many of whom have opponents in the US.

Special precautions were said to be in place for President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. He recently survived an assassination attempt in Ethiopia, and Egyptian Moslem cleric Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, was one of 10 men convicted last month for plotting "a war of urban terrorism" in the US.

The visitor grabbing the headlines is Cuba's Fidel Castro, who last came to the UN in 1979. The visit of Castro, who is to address the UN on Sunday, is expected to prompt at least two competing

demonstrations, one by his supporters and one by his opponents.

Major demonstrations were expected against France, both for its nuclear testing and for its aid to Algeria. Protests were anticipated against China for human rights abuses and its policies in Tibet.

Authorities also were prepared for smaller protests against Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The preeminent spot for protests is on 43rd Street, where a circular cement staircase rises from First Avenue, directly across the street from the UN.

It is a site inextricably linked with the Jews.

The steps are dedicated to Nathan Sharansky. A pocket-sized park is named for Ralph Bunche, UN mediator during the 1948 War of Independence. The corner is the Raoul Wallenberg Walk.

The site is framed by the Isaiah Wall, etched with verse 24: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares."

S. African serial killer shot

PRETORIA (Reuters) — South African police said yesterday they shot and arrested the prime suspect in the serial killings of at least 40 women, some of whom were lured to their deaths by letters and telephone calls.

Moses Sithole, 31, who police say may have used his onetime job as a youth counselor to ensnare women whom he raped and strangled with their underwear, was wounded when he was cornered in a rain-soaked alley in a slum district of Johannesburg, police said.

Sithole attacked two undercover investigators, who had received information that

he was going to see a relative to obtain a gun, with a hand-axe, police said.

They fired two warning shots and then shot him first in the foot and then in the stomach when he did not stop, Police Commissioner George Fivaz said at a news conference. He said one of the policemen was slightly slashed on the hand.

Fivaz said Sithole was in satisfactory condition in hospital and said after the news conference that the use of force was "understandable when we are dealing with an abnormal person."

To Olly and the Orman family,
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on the loss of your beloved sister

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widow of the late journalist Ernst Zvi Laszlo ז"ל,
we will visit her grave on Sunday, October 22, 1995,
at Har Hamenuhot cemetery, Jerusalem

The family

The management and staff of
The Jerusalem Post
mourns the passing of their colleague

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and extends sincere condolences
to his family

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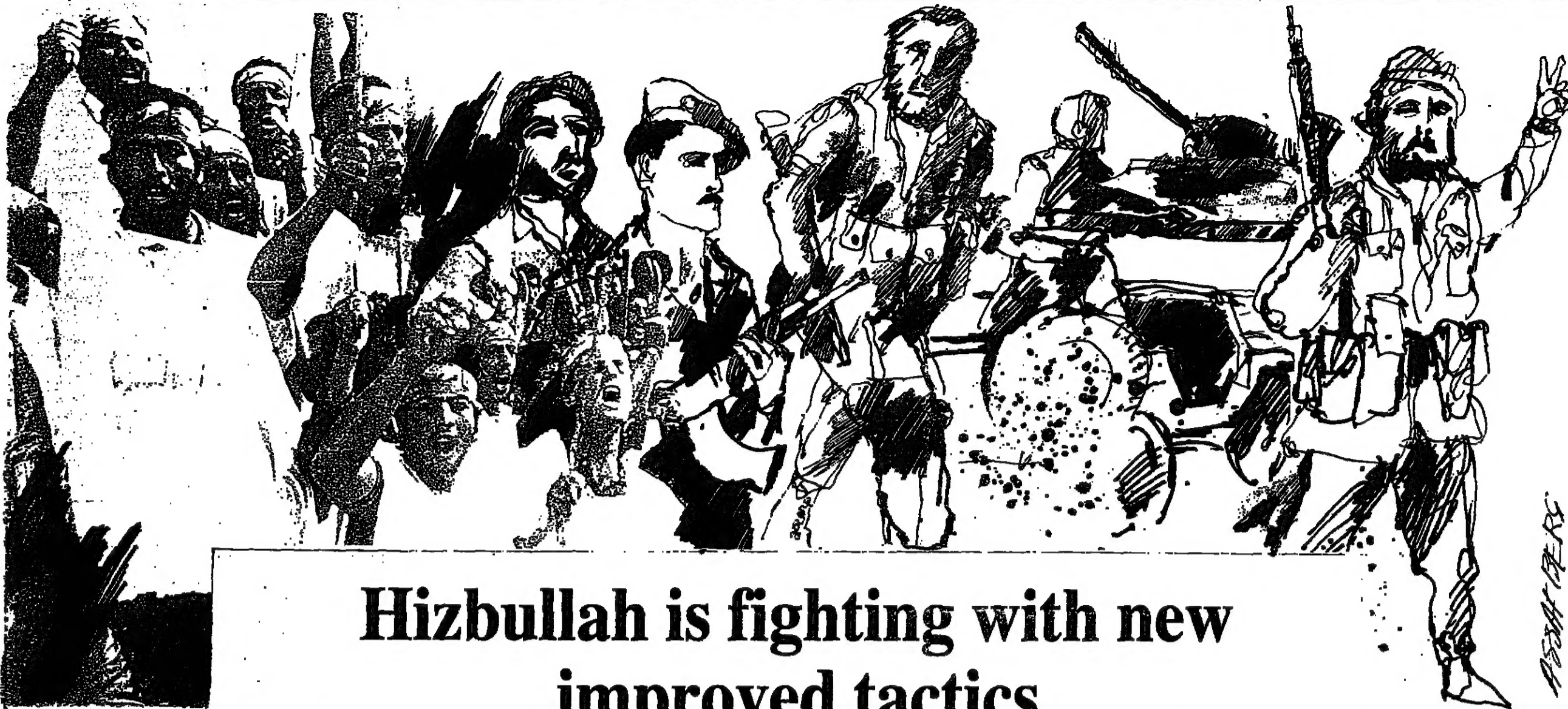
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הקדמה לאירוע

News in Focus

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1995



Hizbullah is fighting with new improved tactics

This once ragtag band of inexperienced guerrillas is now well-equipped, well-informed and disciplined, David Rudge writes

HIZBULLAH is riding the crest of a wave of popularity in Lebanon following its successful attacks against IDF troops in the past few days. Members of its fighting arm, the Islamic Resistance, killed nine Israeli soldiers and wounded seven.

The Syrian-controlled Lebanese government issued a statement on Wednesday fully supporting "resistance operations," which it said would continue as long as Israel remains on Lebanese soil. Similar comments were carried in state-run Syrian newspapers.

Questioning the status quo of the security zone: Page 8

The attacks - a carefully planned and executed ambush last Thursday and a fortuitous, from Hizbullah's viewpoint, roadside bomb blast on Sunday - are viewed by Syria and its Lebanese proxy as "clean" operations.

They were carried out inside the security zone with deadly accuracy. There was no breach of the US-brokered Operation Accountability Understandings signed by Israel, Syria and Hizbullah after the July 1993 campaign.

Syria, contending that such attacks are the legitimate right of any occupied people struggling to

liberate its land, is therefore immune to any US pressure because the understandings remain intact.

The Lebanese government, which in accordance with Syrian policy opposes Katyusha rocket attacks on Galilee, can breathe a sigh of relief because Israel has no excuse, under the terms of the same understandings, for shelling Lebanese towns and villages north of the zone.

The successes have also given Hizbullah itself, and especially its leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, a major morale boost after a series of heavy losses in clashes with the IDF and the South Lebanese Army, and reports of a split in the ranks of the extremist Shiite organization.

A fleeting victory on the battlefield, however, is not the sole reason for the relative rise in Hizbullah's popularity. The organization, backed ideologically and financially by Syria's main ally, Iran, is changing its tactics and image, socially and militarily, in tune with the changing times.

The Islamic Resistance of today is a far cry from the Holy Moslem Martyrs of just a few years ago who went out in masses to fight and die with the cry of Allah on their lips, a copy of the Koran near their hearts, and a plastic key to the gates of paradise in their pockets.

Gone are the days of frontal assaults on IDF and SLA strongholds which sometimes ended with the Hizbullah flag being raised over positions, but more often than not in massive casualties. In one such attack, back in

1987, Hizbullah lost 36 men. That marked the end of the mass attacks and suicide bombings and the beginning of a much more sophisticated, well-planned and coordinated form of guerrilla warfare - the kind that is being waged by the Islamic Resistance in southern Lebanon now.

Detailed reconnaissance and intelligence gathering in the field by Hizbullah supporters in villages north of the zone are coordinated with local commanders, who in turn convey the information to their superiors, situated for the most part in the Bekaa Valley.

Plans are drawn up on the basis of the information and then missions are executed. Some Hizbullah activists, with the help of Iranian instructors, have become experts in the manufacture of various kinds of explosive devices.

The Islamic Resistance also has cadres of highly motivated and well-paid fighters, specially trained in the kind of hit-and-run guerrilla warfare that has become the new trademark of Hizbullah.

They are equipped as soldiers, with uniforms, helmets, flak jackets, communication equipment and modern weaponry. They have the necessary skills

and professionalism to carry out their missions - be they ambushes, attacks on outposts, or helping to plant roadside bombs.

They have been taught patience, perseverance and survival techniques and have proved their ability to wait in ambush positions - for long hours if necessary - without giving away any sign of their presence. In the event of a clash, they melt into the wadis, while trying, wherever possible, not to leave wounded or fallen comrades in the field - in marked contrast to their suicidal methods of the past.

The carefully planned ambush of the IDF convoy traveling in civilian vehicles with Lebanese license plates on the night of October 12 was undoubtedly carried out by one of these units.

Not all the elite squads are located in the north. Some are active in the villages just north of the security zone where, without uniforms, they blend into the population. Hizbullah also has supporters and activists in the villages. They include those prepared to carry out spying missions, as well as others who store weapons and those who use them, briefly, and then revert back to being farmers, businessmen, clerks or simply local

residents.

The long-range mortar or Katyusha rockets fired at IDF and SLA positions, as well as many of the attempted roadside bomb attacks, are believed to be the work of these "locals."

To hit these elusive elements with the conventional means employed by the IDF and not cause casualties to innocent civilians is difficult if not impossible. Hizbullah is taking full advantage of Israel's commitment to the Operation Accountability

Understandings.

Prime Minister Rabin, speaking to reporters at Haifa's Rambam Hospital after visiting soldiers wounded in the recent attacks, highlighted the problems facing the IDF in southern Lebanon.

He noted that the character of the war being waged against the IDF and SLA in the security zone had changed since the zone was established as a buffer against terrorist infiltration attempts, primarily by Palestinians.

Today, Rabin said, the main problem is that the fight is being conducted by the indigenous population led by Hizbullah. It is, in his words, a war fought by the Lebanese people themselves.

A Hizbullah office, staffed by three or four people, can be located on the third floor of a six-

story building, with families living above and below the office. It is difficult to hit such a target, Rabin said.

Hizbullah does not have bases like the Palestinians had in Lebanon, nor does it have command headquarters.

Even its known bases in the Bekaa Valley, controlled by thousands of Syrian troops and protected by anti-aircraft missile batteries, do not present easy targets.

The problems are obvious, the solutions, less so. In the meantime, Hizbullah, with the full backing of the Lebanese and Syrian authorities, is continuing to build and expand its political and social infrastructure in Lebanon in readiness for the future - including the possibility of peace in the region.

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The Canadian Embassy would like to update the database record of Canadians residing in Israel. All Canadian citizens residing in Israel for 3 months or longer are invited to register by mail at 220 Hayarkon St., Tel Aviv, 63405, by telephone at (03) 5465810/11 or (03) 5272929, or by fax at (03) 5445685. Those who have registered before are encouraged to contact the Embassy at this time to ensure their record is up to date. Please note that registration with the Embassy is voluntary.

AVIS AUX CANADIENS

L'Ambassade du Canada voudrait mettre à jour sa banque de données des Canadiens résidant en Israël. Tout citoyen canadien résidant en Israël pour une période de trois mois ou plus est invité à s'inscrire au registre, soit par voie postale à l'adresse suivante: 220 rue Hayarkon, Tel-Aviv, 63405, soit par téléphone au (03) 5465810/11 ou (03) 5272929, soit par télécopie au (03) 5445685. Les Canadiens qui sont déjà inscrits sont invités à prendre contact avec l'Ambassade afin de vérifier si leurs coordonnées sont exactes. Veuillez noter que l'inscription est un acte volontaire.

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MUNICIPALITY OF RA'ANANA

THE JERUSALEM POST

The Ra'anana Municipality, The Jerusalem Post and ESRA take pleasure in presenting the first **VIEWPOINTS** of this season.

Subject: "Does Israel Need a New Centrist Party?"

Panel: Mr. Uzi Landau, M.K. Likud
Mr. Natan Sharansky, Leader of the New Olim Party
Mrs. Michal Yudelman, Political Analyst of The Jerusalem Post.
Advocate Michael Kleiner, one of the leaders of M.K. David Levy's new Center Party.

Moderator: Dr. Yoram Perry

Date: Sunday, 29th October, 1995 at 8:30p.m.

Venue: Yad Lebanim, 147 Ahuza St., Ra'anana

Cost: NIS. 15.00

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Changes a long way off in 10-year war with Hizbullah

Israel is reconsidering the value of the security zone after recent attacks there, writes Alon Pinkas

AN agency in the Prime Minister's Office this week submitted a report to the premier on the situation in southern Lebanon. The document was untitled, but could have been called: "The Security Zone in South Lebanon Revisited."

The study that produced the document preceded the two attacks in the security zone October 12 and Sunday in which nine soldiers were killed.

While the document makes no recommendations, because the agency is not mandated to do so, it does essentially call for a critical review of the concept of maintaining the security zone.

A similar document was circulated in the Foreign Ministry last week. A glimpse into the contents of both documents was provided by Economics and Planning Minister Yossi Beilin during Tuesday's special cabinet meeting.

Beilin, characteristically launching a test-balloon that challenged Prime Minister Rabin's orthodoxy, called for a thorough examination of whether the zone was an asset or a military and political liability.

Such a proposition is based on Hizbullah's own statements that its only real quarrel with Israel is that it occupies a part of Lebanon and that hostilities will cease once Israel retreats.

Theologically, the struggle will lead to Jerusalem, but "our interests are that Israel leave Lebanon," according to Shiekh Fadlallah, one of the organization's leaders.

Although both Rabin and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak stressed



IDF soldiers prepare to enter Lebanon this week. Israeli military successes there have failed to change the status quo. (Israel Sun)

that the security-zone concept is under constant review, few in decision-making circles have in recent years seriously contemplated withdrawal.

SHAHAK HAS rejected the idea, saying that until there is a partner to discuss an arrangement in southern Lebanon, there is no point in debating the security zone's necessity, because it is necessary.

Neither Hizbullah nor the Leb-

anese government is such a partner, he said.

Shahak did not include Syria in his shortlist of non-partners, thus reflecting the conventional wisdom in Israel that a comprehensive deal with Syria would include southern Lebanon.

The hypothetical quid pro quo of the Golan Heights in exchange for peace in Lebanon was rejected by Rabin, who warned Syria that it would not win any concessions from Israel by using Hizbul-

lah as a violent proxy.

The diplomatic track now seems to offer the only viable long-term solution for Lebanon. Purely military options seem to have reached an impasse.

Israel has operated against Hizbullah in a decade-long war of attrition.

Since the beginning of 1995, in the eastern sector of the security zone alone, where the nine soldiers were killed, 550 incidents have been registered. Over 400

of them involved distant Hizbullah fire, from either rockets, mortar shells or light weapons. The war's intensity is brought to Israeli living rooms only when there are casualties, but there has been no let-up in this war.

Changes and modifications of troop deployment, of operational concepts and of tactics, and even military successes, have failed to change the situation: a guerrilla war in which the smaller and more flexible force enjoys the support of the population and almost inevitably inflicts heavy losses on the larger force.

MAO ZEDONG wrote the user's manual on guerrilla warfare in the late 1940s, and Hizbullah is implementing it almost verbatim.

It is true that the IDF has in the last six months exacted a heavy price from Hizbullah. It is also true that Hizbullah's audacity and military capabilities should not be overestimated. But, in pure military terms, the "erosion ratio" - the ratio of casualties each side sustains and is willing to continue to sustain - favors Hizbullah.

It favors Hizbullah even when there is no visible escalation in the level of military operations. The most recent attacks do not constitute an escalation but, rather, tragic strokes of statistical bad luck, even considering the size of the IDF presence, the amount of Hizbullah activity and the terms of engagement.

Of the many people who have commented on the two attacks, the most concise and accurate depiction of things came, ironically, from Naim Qassem, one of Hizbullah's senior officials.

"There is no escalation. Our successes were a combination of circumstances," he said. These circumstances are the core of the status quo that prevails in southern Lebanon.

"Military solutions have so far failed to eliminate Hizbullah," Shahak said this week. In a Chan-

nel 1 Conference Call interview on Wednesday, the IDF chief said the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon may end when Hizbullah has no reason for attacking Israel.

"One way of realizing that will be if they sustain a lot of casualties," Shahak said.

He was not hinting at a specific operation, but one was reminded of the 1994 Ein Dardara attack deep in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley. Still, the question of Israel's military options lingers.

ISRAEL'S MILITARY options in southern Lebanon, to borrow US Cold War terminology and doctrines, have traditionally been between massive retaliation and a flexible response.

The first was tried somewhat unsuccessfully in 1978 and 1982, resulting in far more complicated problems than those the policy was meant to solve.

Large-scale ground incursions are likely to provoke Katyusha rockets fired into northern Israel, something the security zone was designed to prevent, not encourage.

Flexible response has been the IDF's basic policy since the establishment of the security zone. Its record is mixed. It has been successful in preventing infiltration into Israel, but it has also created the status quo vis-à-vis Hizbullah.

Under OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amram Levine, the policy of flexible response - the power to determine where, when, and at what level of force military power will be used - has been successful.

Special forces conduct small-scale incursions north of the security zone, constantly harassing and attacking Hizbullah on its own turf.

The policy's effectiveness is evident from the growing number of Hizbullah casualties and operational failures in the last several months.

But while it is tactically sound, this policy has had little impact on the status quo, especially because Hizbullah is agile enough to adjust to changes in IDF tactics. When the IDF used a fixed line of outpost defense, Hizbullah initiated frontal attacks.

When the outposts were fortified, Hizbullah used artillery and missile barrages.

When tactics shifted to a more mobile and flexible force, Hizbullah countered with ambushes - some very intricate - and roadside bombs.

Hizbullah is not deterred from attacks at night, despite its probable inferiority in night-fighting equipment.

"We operate at night, and the decision was made ahead of time, probably because commanders [in southern Lebanon] assumed that the set of threats during the day would be greater ... such as Sager missile and mortar fire," Shahak said.

WHEN IDF tanks rolled over the Lebanese border on June 6, 1982, prime minister Begin promised "40 years of quiet and tranquility." Units advancing through Lebanon were showered by the local Shi'ite population with perfumed rice.

The impoverished Shi'ites had endured the Palestinian presence in southern Lebanon for 12 long and painful years and were somewhat relieved to see Israel intent on demolishing the PLO's military infrastructure.

But by staying in Lebanon, Israel rapidly sank in the insatiable quagmire, and by late 1982 and 1983 the Shi'ite Amal and Hizbullah groups were fighting the Israeli presence.

The shortsightedness of Israeli alliance politics in Lebanon, namely the unhelpful alliance with the Maronites, helped precipitate the establishment of Hizbullah.

In place of the PLO, exiled to Tunisia, Israel now confronted a new and exceedingly ruthless enemy.

When Israel withdrew from Lebanon in 1985, a security zone was carved in the south. Its original purpose was to prevent Palestinian terror from infiltrating northern Israel. In reality, it turned to be the fighting ground between Israel and Hizbullah, whose ideological mentors are in Iran.

The issue of Iran in general was yesterday discussed in a meeting between Rabin and visiting CIA director John Demuth. But Syria is the more pressing issue, and Rabin is expected to discuss it in New York over the weekend when he meets President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher. US and international pressure on Syria now seems to be the only effective way to curb Hizbullah activities in Lebanon.

Israel has repeatedly maintained that Syria can restrain Hizbullah but doesn't want to for political reasons. Syria's control of Lebanese politics is uncontested, and Damascus could significantly reduce Hizbullah attacks, but its real control of daily military activities in south Lebanon may be limited.

Hizbullah operates under the impression that an Israel-Syria agreement will be a done deal in a year or two at most.

A new order in Lebanon will be the outcome of such a deal, and Hizbullah is asserting its power and positioning itself for the future.

In the meantime, Israel is left with few strategic options and must do the best it can in the security zone.

This doesn't mean that it can't consider surgical strikes. But, as in the past, they will not change the big picture.

1995 Census of Population and Housing

During October, November and December 1995, a census of population and housing will be held throughout Israel. A census is held every ten years. The objective of the census is to obtain statistical, demographic and socio-economic data on Israel's population, which will facilitate the drawing up of plans for the development of the country and the economy, for the period through the turn of the century.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

When will the census taker come?

The census takers will call on every household, to provide a census questionnaire. These visits will start on October 19, 1995, and the census taker will call again, in the period starting November 5, 1995, to collect the questionnaire. There is no need for you to stay at home, awaiting his call. If you are not at home, he will call again.

You complete the questionnaire

The census taker will leave a questionnaire, which you should complete. A few days later, he will call again, to collect the completed questionnaire.

How many types of questionnaire are there?

All residents will complete a short questionnaire. A 20% sample of the population will fill in an expanded questionnaire. In no questionnaire are there any questions about religion.

In what languages is the questionnaire available?

The questionnaire has been printed in Hebrew and Arabic, the official languages of the State of Israel. As an aid, translations of the questionnaire have been prepared in English, Russian, Romanian, Yiddish, Spanish, French and Amharic. These translations are purely an aid. The census taker will be glad to help anyone who has difficulty in filling in the questionnaire, when he returns to collect it.

Is it compulsory to participate in the census?

The Statistics Order (New Version) 1972 makes it obligatory for everyone to participate in the census. Participating in the census is an important right - everyone who participates influences the future of the State.

The information you provide is confidential

The law requires the information you provide to be kept strictly confidential. No body private or public - including the courts, the police, the security establishment, the broadcasting authority, and the income tax authorities - has ever received from a census any personal information that could be related to a resident, and will not receive any such information from the 1995 census.

How can you identify the census taker?

The census taker who calls on you will be wearing an identifying badge, which will include his photograph. The badge will identify the person wearing it as a census taker, participating in the 1995 Census of Population and Housing, being conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics, which is the body charged with holding the census.

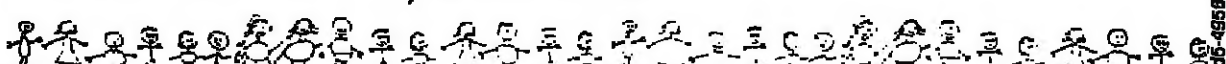
From October 19, Telemesser lines will be available around the clock, for telephone inquiries regarding the filling-in of the census questionnaire, in the following languages:

HEBREW - Tel Aviv - 03-5653996, Jerusalem - 02-294499, Haifa - 04-303199
ARABIC - National Headquarters - 03-5653200
RUSSIAN - National Headquarters - 03-5653997

Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation!
Central Bureau of Statistics



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We must not become what we most oppose

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK and Amos Kollek

WATCHING an interview with US lawyer Alan Dershowitz on ITV last Friday night regarding the O.J. Simpson trial brought one thought, not so much about the mood and the state of affairs in America, but our own situation here in Israel.

Dershowitz was asked about American Jews' outrage at defense lawyer Johnnie Cochran's comparison of Sgt. Mark Fuhrman's racist views to those of Hitler. Dershowitz said he felt that what Jews anywhere should be concerned with is not a black lawyer rightly condemning a white policeman who is a proven racist and a liar, but some Jews in Israel comparing their own prime minister (and, I might add, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize) to Hitler.

The Simpson case is far from me, but the atmosphere in Israel is not. And whether the jury system in California has proven effective or not in one particular trial bothers me far less than the fact that people here stand on podiums in the middle of the street in broad daylight and practically call for the assassination of the country's leaders.

I am infuriated because I think that these particular leaders are doing correct and courageous things for Israel, moving in the right direction towards peace, but much more than that, I am troubled by the fact that this kind of behavior by an irresponsible mob is being tolerated. It seems to have become a way of life, and that is horrifying.

Even in a democracy – as liberal and broadminded as it might be – there have to be limits, red lines, stop signs. We must not accept having those who address political rallies call their country's leaders "murderers," "traitors," and "Nazis," and incite their followers to take action against them – in effect to rebel and fight their own elected government in any way they choose.

People who do that should be locked up and should pay for their behavior severely, to the full extent of the law. If the right laws do not exist now, they should be formulated or amended for this purpose.

Everybody has the right to be heard; all political views – put forward in a lawful, civilized manner – are welcome. But anarchy is not. A government is elected once every four years in the voting booths, not by hooligans shouting and threatening in the streets.

An elected government must be protected, respected and obeyed, by all its citizens, including the opposition and even – dare I say it? – by Orthodox Jews. Furthermore, aside from exercising stronger legal measures against people inciting to violence and anarchy, I call on the leaders of all parties for much stronger moral discipline. The issue is not to protect and preserve a Labor government, but any government that will be elected in the future, of the people, for the people and by the people.

Individuals and groups who claim to be great Israeli patriots and keepers of the Jewish flame by calling their prime minister a Nazi and reading out instructions to their fellow citizens to disobey the army and the police, are not patriots at all. They are our worst enemies and should be treated as such.

Israel is a country that was created largely as an answer to racism, bigotry, intolerance and injustice toward Jews.

We cannot allow ourselves to become the very thing which we oppose the most. Bigotry and intolerance in our own country, whether directed at Arabs or fellow Jews, must be fought and conquered before it is too late. The most effective reaction would be if the wide public would not vote for any party that seems to be supportive of such elements.

NATIONAL Public Radio (NPR), the virulently anti-Israel American network featured in an Eye on the Media column by guest columnist Andrea Levin two weeks ago, had to admit error last week. In the column, Levin mentioned that the network's correspondent in Israel, Maureen Meehan, was married to Palestinian Authority official Jiries Atrash, and that NPR had flatly denied the charge, claiming that Atrash was nothing but an adviser to a German company.

A letter from Levin to NPR president Delano Lewis asserted that the marital connection made fair reporting well-nigh impossible. "Stories critical of... Arafat's security chief in Jericho, or any PLO official or policy would be difficult, if not impossible for Ms. Meehan to report," it said.

In his response, Lewis not only denied that Atrash was connected to Arafat, but added a not-so-veiled threat: "Maureen's spouse, Jiries [sic] Atrash, is not a PLO official. We understand there are other similarly named men in the region, as you may find when checking the facts of your story. I expect not to see this misinformation in your newsletter."

But, as she wrote in the column, Levin did indeed check her sources. "In response to an inquiry, the Palestinian Authority office in Jericho supplied a home telephone number for Jiries Atrash, Assistant to the Chairman's Bureau of the Jericho Office of the Palestinian Authority, that matched that of Maureen Meehan."

Numerous other sources confirm that Meehan is married to this PA official. "As New York magazine put it in reporting the story: 'Talk about getting into bed with your sources...'"

Informed of Levin's discovery "Lewis ate crow," as the *Boston Globe* put it in an October 13 story on the exchange.

He promptly responded: "NPR holds our reporters to the highest professional standards, which are intended to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest. While the same standards do not, of course, apply to spouses of reporters, common sense dictates that reporters would not report about their

NPR admits its mistake

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

own spouses and that they would disclose any associations or employment that might create a real or perceived conflict of interest. I appreciate your perseverance in communicating the information in question, because it now appears Ms. Meehan did not adequately disclose to NPR her husband's employment and association with organizations and events she covered in connection with her work for NPR. As a result, we have informed Ms. Meehan that we will no longer take her reports."

Newsday, the Long Island daily (circulation 800,000) for which Meehan had acted as stringer, has also dispensed with her services. *The Christian Science Monitor* and *NBC Radio*, for which she also reports, have kept her on.

FOREIGN MINISTRY IN THE NEWS BUSINESS

The *Jerusalem Post* is not the only news source from Israel on Internet. The Israel Foreign Ministry has also joined the "information superhighway" with a news service called "Israel Line." The ministry also faxes the material it features on Internet to scores of Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, public figures and the media. A relatively new organization, "Israel's Media Watch," which has monitored the service, issued a report about it last month. Following are some highlights:

"The service is undoubtedly useful to those who prefer a concise two-page summary of what is going on in Israel. Most of the recipients presume that the update is an accurate reflection of the news from Israel... It does not portray itself as the Foreign Ministry press service. Indeed it is intended, according to a Foreign Ministry source, as a media survey."

"[But] 'Israel Line' provides its subscribers and recipients with a very particular and filtered view of the news from Israel and the Middle East... In a communication dated July 13,

Josh Mitrnick of the Foreign Ministry writes, 'we try to choose the most important foreign affairs and economic stories of the day.' But the report indicates that the selection made by the Foreign Ministry of news is what is most important for the partisan agenda of the Israel government. As such, it is actually propaganda, not news."

"Two periods were reviewed. The first, from February 22 to March 8, the second, from July 1 through July 31."

"It is clear that in the first period, the news reports leaned rather heavily on two newspapers with a clear ideological bias, [the Histadrut organ] *Davar* and [the left-wing Mafpan party's] *Al Hanihsar*. Thirty-five percent of the items quoted in 'Israel Line' at that time came from these two newspapers – as much as *Ha'aretz*, *Yediot* and *Ma'ariv* combined."

"During the second period, [by which time *Al Hanihsar* had closed], there was an increase in relying on *Ha'aretz*, but the analysis revealed a similar picture to that of the first period. 140 different quotations from the various news sources appeared. 40 percent originated from *Ha'aretz*, 25 percent from *Kol Yisrael*, 5 percent from *Ma'ariv*, 5.7 percent from *Yediot*, 2.1 percent from Channel 1 TV and 21.4 percent from *Davar*. This last statistic is more than twice that of *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot* combined. It should be recalled that *Davar* is a small paper, even peripheral in terms of news coverage."

"More important, it should be noted that *The Jerusalem Post*, which is printed in English, and perhaps would ease the production of 'Israel Line,' is totally absent from both periods. Over 200 separate news items were included in the survey in the two periods, but not one is attributed to *The Jerusalem Post*, far more widely read than *Davar*."

"An analysis of the two periods leads one to the conclusion that 'Israel Line' is produced, almost exclusively, to promote the Oslo peace process. The vast majority of the items are connected in

one way or another with the process and with the negotiations between Israel and Syria, Jordan, and other Foreign Ministry activities."

"Readers of the survey would not know that three soldiers were killed and eight wounded in Lebanon [during the surveyed period] or that there was an epidemic of bank robberies. No one would know that Benjamin Netanyahu consistently bested Rabin in popularity polls."

"July was a month in which several outstanding anti-government-policy demonstrations took place. There were rallies at Kfar Sava (July 3), Karne Shomron (July 12), Zichron Ya'akov (July 19), from July 21 to July 27 at Givat Hadagan and at Ramat Gan (July 31)."

All received wide coverage in the media in Israel. But only the removal of the demonstrators at Givat Hadagan on July 31 was noted by 'Israel Line'."

"There is an almost complete black-out on news about opposition to the Oslo peace process. Combined with the absence of any negative reports concerning the PLO and its activities or violations of the DOP, the reports on 'Israel Line' give a distorted view. The casual reader may be forgiven if his impression is that the people of Israel are solidly behind their government's policies and that the problems in the negotiations are but technical... The Foreign Ministry is exploiting 'Israel Line' as an instrument to mislead its readers as to the true nature of the news coming out of Israel. The organ is presented as a 'media survey' but does not reflect the reality. It bases itself on legitimate news sources, that is Israeli newspapers, radio and television, but distorts the picture these media sources give Israel."

"It would be more appropriate if the ministry simply issues press releases clearly promoting government policies."

The report also notes that in the period surveyed, Yitzhak Rabin was mentioned 65 times, Shimon Peres 63, Yasser Arafat 26, Dennis Ross 17 and Benin 12 times. Benjamin Netanyahu and Avigdor Kahalani were mentioned twice each.

What's delaying Messiah?

A VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

SAUDI ARABIAN Foreign Minister Prince Saud al Faisal al Saud wants the Jews to stop interfering with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's peace efforts. He thinks the "greatest threat" to the peace process are the internal political difficulties confronting Rabin.

Saud made these remarks to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations (COPROMAJOR) when he met with them in Washington on October 2.

That is certainly the greatest threat to the Rabin-to-Arafat surrender process. But it is that very process that is the greatest threat to peace. For so far it is mainly a process in which those who lost the wars of aggression they initiated against us, here represented by the PLO bosses, issue demand after demand to those they tried but failed to destroy, and the latter, here represented by our government officials, make concession after concession. The PLO violates one after another of its undertakings, and our representatives keep nodding assent.

The Saudi prince pledged "unequivocally" that his country will "normalize relations with Israel – when the time is ripe."

We know of Saudi Arabia's devout Islamic perspective, and its role as a major purveyor of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and other antisemitic slanders. So I wonder what kind of normalization with us the Saudis envisage.

THE COPROMAJOR members opposing the capitulation process were reportedly embarrassed at finding themselves thus chastised by an Arab statesman.

"It was a very ironic situation," observed Abraham H. Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, who was present. "They didn't expect to hear such support for Rabin from the Saudi minister."

I doubt that people like Zionist Organization of America President Morton Klein and Poalei Agudat Yisrael President Rabbi Fabian Schofield were embarrassed. If they were, it was over some Jews' fawning on Saudi diplomats.

And did Foxman expect Saud to attack Israel, which would have driven even Labor Zionist Federation and Hadassah leaders into the camp of the "enemies of the peace"?

Did he expect Saud to attack a process that is putting us in a worse position when Arabs next go to war against us?

And the next Arab-Israel war is inevitable, no matter what we do or do not surrender to the PLO. I don't know who will start or provoke it, but the issue will not be water, electricity, territory, or any of the conventional *cassus belli*.

The issue will be what seems the congenital inability of Syrian/Palestinian Arab politicians, Moslems and Christians alike, and of certain other Moslems to make concessions to Jews as sovereign equals. Especially loathsome to them is Jews' exercising sovereignty on land those Arabs claim as holy Moslem/Arab soil.

Rabin's wishful thinking and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's moonings about what he now calls "a new age for the Middle East" will not change that.

(See *Yediot Aharonot* and *Ha'aretz*, October 3, and *The Jerusalem Post*, October 5.)

THOSE GROUPS mentioned by Prince Saud are not only hindering the "peace process." They are also delaying the coming of Messiah.

The talmudic Sages speculate about the conditions under which Messiah will come (see mainly *Sanhedrin* 97-98 and *Sota* 49b).

They suggest, for example, that he will come when the world is either entirely innocent or entirely guilty.

As we look at the world, we seem nearly at the state of "entirely guilty."

Then what or who is delaying Messiah's arrival?

Why, all those do-gooders! There are many, in various spheres of Jewish life in general and Israeli life in particular – in the spheres of political and social action, in mutual-assistance

hessed activities, in the field of education. I will mention only a few sociopolitical ones:

□ The tens of thousands of adult Jewish residents of Judea, Samaria, Gaza District, Golan and Jordan Rift Valley and their families, conducting their lives to secure our land's Jewish future.

□ Ruth and Nadia Matar of Jerusalem and their Women for Israel's Tomorrow struggling to keep the public alert to the dangers to which our government's policies in the past three years has exposed and will further expose all of us.

□ Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of Efrata, finally realizing that since 1992 virtually nothing is "safely in the national consensus," and taking a firm stand.

□ Dr. Joseph Lerner of Jerusalem and his son, Dr. Aaron Lerner, of Ra'anana, and their IMRA/Independent Media Review and Analysis, feeding opinion makers and Internet clients with fresh, accurate information about "the process."

□ David Bedein and his Media Resource/Institute for Peace Education supplying opinion makers here and abroad with videotapes of speeches by Yasser Arafat that the PLO boss and his "peace partners" would rather have kept secret.

□ Shifra Hoffman of Jerusalem, whose Victims of Arab Terror group and Association for Jewish Rights in Israel keep us alert on our failure to treat some of the crucial issues Zionistically.

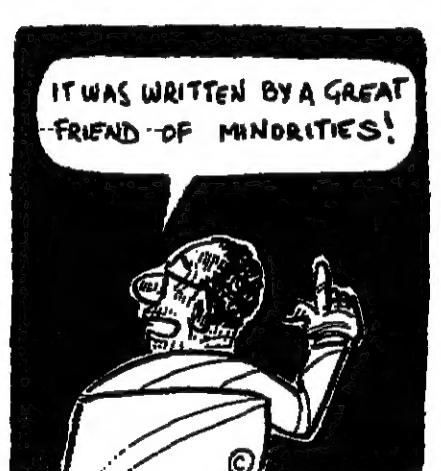
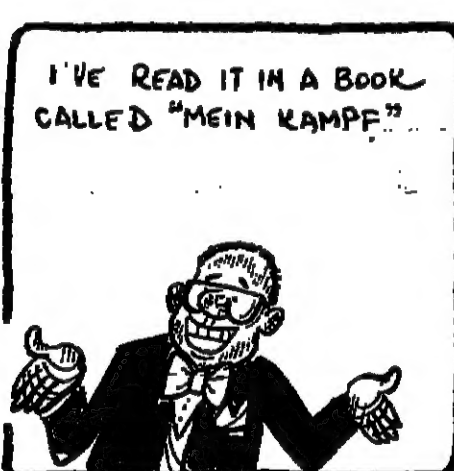
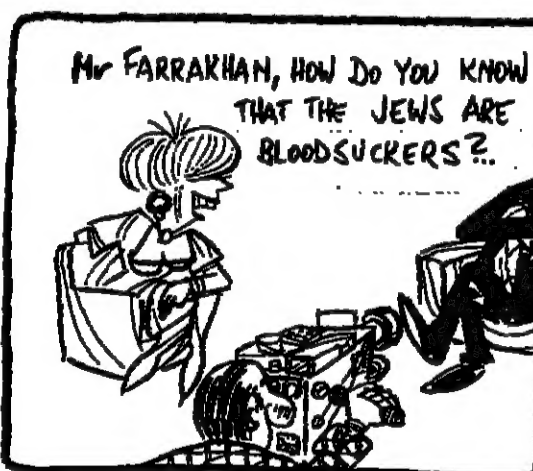
□ The millions of Christians throughout the world guided by such Jerusalem-based institutions as the International Christian Embassy, Bridges for Peace and Christian Friends of Israel helping in so many ways to foster our land's Jewish future.

□ Morton Klein and his allies in the American Jewish and general public and in Congress struggling to staunch the flow of largesse to the PLO until it starts living up to its basic obligations under the Oslo accords.

ANOTHER precondition for Messiah's coming is that we will be rid of what Rabbi Hama Bar Hanina calls "the government that is as bad as no government" (*Sanhedrin* 98a with Rashi).

SRULIK

by DOSH



The bridge between heaven and earth

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Gen. 1:1)

WE begin once again the beautifully familiar Torah cycle, but interestingly enough not during the Festival of Shavuot, which is the anniversary of the Revelation at Sinai, but rather on Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, which comes at the conclusion of Succot.

A reason for the connection between Succot and the creation of the world can be discovered in one of the most basic midrashic commentaries on the very first word of the Bible, *Bereshtá*, in the beginning. Rashi, the biblical commentator par excellence, cites a fascinating insight from the Sages.

The word *reshit* (beginning) is used biblically both in reference to the nation Israel and the Torah.

Thus one can take the opening verse to mean: "Because of Israel and Torah, did God create the heaven and the earth."

Rashi's commentary thus turns the opening verse into a biblical statement of intent. Heaven and earth exist only for the sake of a unique nation with a unique teaching that guides every step of its existence.

Through Israel and Torah the world will be recreated in God's image, and only then will it real-

ize its ultimate potential and meaning.

The connection is even deeper, however. We often lose sight of the fact that the last portion of the Torah, *Zot HaBracha*, is the only portion which does not receive its own Sabbath.

Instead we read this portion on Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, the last moments of the life of Moses.

Thus the day we mark as our Rejoicing over the Torah (Simchat Torah) precedes the biblical reading of God's creation of the heaven and earth; Moses' gift to Israel from the very mouth of the Divine is calendrically established as the very purpose of the creation of the world.

"*Bereshtá Bara Elohim...*" is heard only after we celebrate the Torah and we read the eulogy for Moses.

This is the end which justifies the beginning; this is the human prophet of the Divine whose Book gives ultimate meaning to the world and history.

God may have created a universe, but to us humans it would be nothing but chaos – centuries of floods and destructions – if not for Moses having given the blue-

print by means of which nature can be perfected and the world sanctified.

ACCORDING to the great commentator Rashi, the "mighty hand" of the last verse in the Torah refers to the Tablets of the Law that Moses received from God.

And this ties in with his comment on the opening word in Genesis, wherein it is Torah and Israel, the theme of the Bible's conclusion, which are the very purpose for the world's creation in the first place.

What Moses grabbed in the "mighty hand" referred to above is the Tablets given at Sinai.

The Maharal explains that God is in heaven above, Moses on earth below, and the Torah is the means of connecting heaven and earth, God's domain within the human domain.

This basic concept, rarefied, spiritual and intellectual, becomes reinforced and rooted in reality by the Torah commandment for us to sit in the succa for seven days.

When we leave our homes for seven days, we are also leaving, as it were, our customary physical surroundings, and creating a new

environment for ourselves. Consider the *s'chach*, the covering we use for the succa roof. It must be made of vegetation which grew on the earth, and is therefore not subject to ritual impurity, but it is not of the earth, it may not be connected to the earth.

Its walls are fastened to the ground but from under its roof we must be able to see the stars.

The succa is indeed God's house on earth, a physical representation of the goal of Torah to sanctify the space between heaven and earth; and it is constructed completely in accordance with Torah-ordained instructions.

In an even deeper sense, it provides the perfect passage into Genesis, emphasizing the purpose of the Divine Creation: the nation Israel through the Torah of Israel must sanctify the world between heaven and earth, recreating our homes into the succot of God's protection, love and joy.

Given the quality of heaven and earth, it is only the *reshit* of Israel and Torah which will eventually bring them together and realize the ultimate Divine design. When we understand this, we turn our succot-huts designed by Torah into the Divine clouds of Glory, linking heaven and earth and sanctifying all of creation.

Shabbat Shalom

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הכרמל האדום

Greenland offers holiday on ice

WHEN you drop a chunk of glacier ice from the days of Viking chief Erik the Red into your whisky it will crackle with a sizzling sound as ancient air bubbles are released.

Erik, exiled from nearby Iceland, had no idea that ice could be a selling gimmick when he discovered the world's biggest island in the North Atlantic in 982 CE.

He named it Greenland after its sparse stretches of green in a territory 80 percent covered by ice.

The name was a public relations trick to attract settlers, but it did not work.

Erik's son Leif the Lucky sailed on to discover America but the Vikings disappeared from both lands for unknown reasons by the 15th century.

Now, a new breed of ice-struck travelers is discovering this vast island with 55,000 people, mainly Inuit Eskimos who won home rule from Denmark in 1979 and live on shrimp fisheries and massive aid from Copenhagen.

Some visitors delight in putting 1,000-year-old glacier ice in their drinks at the end of an adventurous day.

"Most of the tourists are either what we call 'gray panthers' - affluent people around retirement age - or young backpackers," said Strange Filskov, tourist chief in Ilulissat, a west-coast town 250 km above the Arctic Circle.

"Tourists come here to experience extreme conditions, the magnificence of nature and the clean air and water, to trek on their own or to take part in organized wilderness expeditions, perhaps on dog sleds," he said. "We should swap names with Iceland. Perhaps the international court in The Hague could help us. The name Greenland is a marketing obstacle," Filskov said.

Tourism is growing rapidly and 15,000 visitors - mainly Scandinavians and other Europeans - are expected this year. A target of 35,000 tourists has been set for the year 2002.

Ilulissat, a town of bright-colored wooden houses where 7,000 residents, is popular because of its ice fjord which is fed by a 600-km-long glacier believed to be the most productive in the world. The Ilulissat tourist bureau offers tours with low-flying helicopters sweeping over the ice fjord and making a brief stop by the inland ice stretching as far as the eye can see.

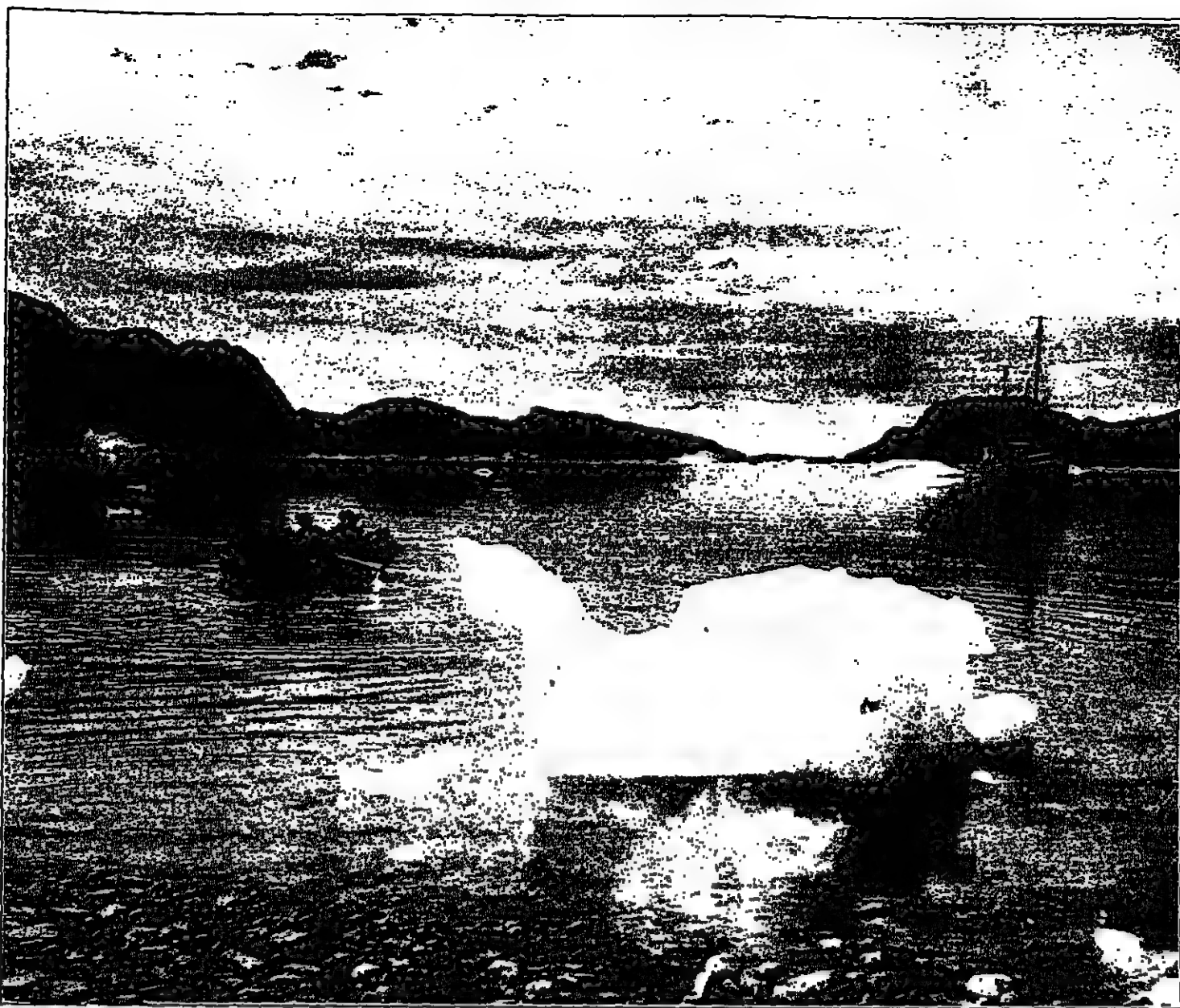
A complete stillness is broken only by the rumbling detonation-like sound of breaking ice.

There are also cruises in the iceberg-dotted bay with a smorgasbord of Arctic sea foods on offer.

The Ilulissat glacier produces about 20 million tonnes of ice every day - according to Filskov the equivalent of New York's annual water consumption - and tirelessly carves huge icebergs into the Disko Bay off Ilulissat.

The icebergs embark on a four-year southwestern journey, eventually melting north of New York. "It's quite likely it was one of ours that sank the Titanic. Luckily it didn't have an Ilulissat tag on it," Filskov said.

The temperature in Ilulissat is minus 15° in spring, five degrees above zero in the summer, around freezing point in the autumn and down to minus 30° in the winter.



Ericksfjord, from where Leif the Lucky launched his discovery of the Americas 1,000 years ago.

(Camera Press)

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Greenland, which has to im-

port virtually everything but marine products, is not for the budget traveler.

Greenland's state travel agency in Copenhagen offers hotel-based tours, west-coast cruises and expedition-style green tours lasting between eight and 16 days. They cost between \$2,000 and \$3,500 including flights, room and board.

At the top of the price list, a dog-sledding expedition to north Greenland can set the more adventurous traveler back around \$15,000.

(Reuters)

Driving on the wrong side

'KEEP left! Keep left!'

This was my chant, repeated endlessly to myself for five days and 800 km., as I successfully navigated the city streets and country paths of Northern Ireland, driving for the first time ever on the left side - the British side, the wrong side - of the road.

Not everything went smoothly. My biggest mistake, which I committed repeatedly, was to flip on the windshield wipers when I meant to use the turn signal. The repeated mistake flustered me but it caused nobody any harm. And we certainly had clean windows.

Still, I was always conscious that due to a similar habit, I might inadvertently turn into the wrong lane. Thus, I recited my chant whenever a turn or tricky maneuver was called for, such as negotiating a succession of confusing traffic circles. Sometimes one led immediately into another and then another, convincing me that only my chant kept me in the proper lane.

I have explored the world on my own by bus and train, visiting a number of countries in which people drive on the left. But I had managed to avoid getting behind the wheel myself. Eventually, I knew I would have to tackle the challenge, but I put it off until the itinerary I planned in Northern Ireland made driving a rental car necessary.

Now I wonder why I waited so long.

My experience, I hope, will convince other hesitant travelers that they can drive on the wrong side of the road, and do it safely. Before the trip was over, I had crossed two mountain ranges, herded black-faced sheep down a country lane, extricated the car from heavy traffic at a holiday festival, plunged ahead through swirling snow flurries, managed midday congestion in bustling Belfast and threaded my way through the tight one-way streets of the old walled city of Londonderry.

APPROACHING this new adventure with understandable apprehension, I wanted to make everything as easy as possible. I reserved an automatic car although they are generally more

expensive than stick shifts. This was a very helpful tip I got from Susan Fellowe, who has published a savvy safety brochure called "Driving in Britain: Left Alive or Dead Right."

She also advocates several pre-departure techniques, including practicing a simulated drive in your parked car at home. I climbed into the front passenger seat and envisioned myself rolling down the left side of the road. And, more good advice, I practiced glancing up and left into the rearview mirror and down and right into the sideview mirror.

BY CHANCE, we picked up the car on the morning of a public holiday, so traffic was light during our first few hours on the road. With so few vehicles around, I sailed easily through my first traffic circle and the dozens that followed.

Northern Ireland is a congenial country in which to learn. The roads, generally, are well-maintained, so I didn't have to worry about the potholes that plague many of the Caribbean islands, where driving also is on the left. Traffic rarely is heavy and road and directional signs are plentiful and easy to understand.

Beyond signaling with the windshield wiper, my most troubling problem was judging distances to the left of the car from my right-side seat. More than once, I came perilously close to scraping the car doors on the left against a rock wall.

On the second morning, I was a bit too cocky following the success of the day before, but not for long. Soon after leaving the country inn in Upperlands where we had stayed, we drove into a village where the road zigzagged through an intersection requiring first a right turn and then a quick left. Forgetting to recite my "Keep left!" chant, I began to turn directly into oncoming traffic and was saved only by a honking horn. From then on, I regarded my chant as essential.

But there is, I later learned, a downside to this. After landing back home, I picked up our car at the airport parking lot and drove home spouting a new chant that had become just as essential - at least temporarily.

"Keep right!" I told myself. "Keep right!"

Reclaimed Hula now being recreated

SEE IT HERE

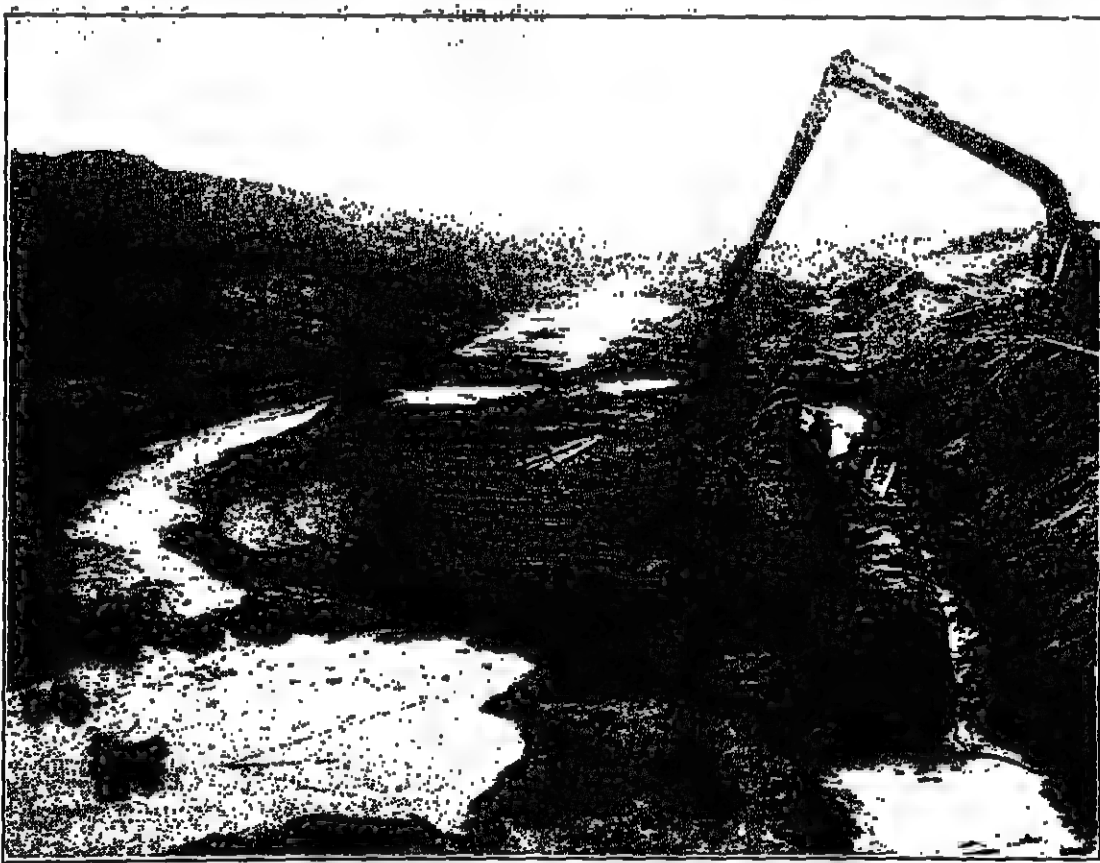
HAIM SHAPIRO

ALMOST 50 years ago, the draining and "reclamation" of the Hula swamp was one of the great projects of the newly created State of Israel. Today, at least a part of that swamp is being recreated.

"I won't say that it was a mistake, but it is true that our ideas have changed since then," says Giora Shoham, director of the Jewish National Fund's Hula Development Project, which is transforming a part of the "reclaimed" fields, where kibbutzim grew wheat and cotton, into a lake and wetlands.

In the original project, the waters of the meandering Jordan were diverted into two drainage canals, east and west of the swamp, yielding some 60,000 dunams (15,000 acres) of peat soil for cultivation. However, as a result of the project, fertilizer nitrates have been increasingly polluting the water of Lake Kinneret, the country's largest reservoir. At the same time, the peat soil, deprived of water, began to burn underground and to subside.

At the time of the original project, a small section was set aside as a nature reserve. The nature reserve is still there and visitors come, mainly to see the flourishing plant life and the many birds that nest there. However, the main purpose of the nature reserve is to serve as a sanctuary for plants and animals. Visitors are not allowed at sunrise and dusk.



A steamshovel seems to be working alone on the massive Hula recreation project. Now it is possible to visit the reflooded area, where restrictions of the nature reserve don't apply.

the very hours when the area is inundated by tens of thousands of birds.

Now, however, it is possible to visit the adjoining reflooded area, where none of the restrictions of the nature reserve apply. To get to the newly flooded area by car, drive north on the Rosh Pina-Metulla highway. About two kilometers north of the road going to the nature reserve, there is another road with a small stone marker of the JNF and a sign in Hebrew *lebei ha'ariza* ("to the packing house"). The paved road ends at a small JNF research station, where scientists are engaged in a geographical information service project, a computerized study of the area.

Past the station is a dirt road with a large red sign in Hebrew, reading "Warning, closed agri-

cultural area, open deep canals, danger of drowning." Drive past the sign to see the lake, fringed with masses of papyrus. This plant, which is also to be found in the Nile Delta (and along the Euphrates), is disappearing from its natural environment because of development, such as the building of dams. Even in the Hula Nature Reserve, the papyrus has not been growing as well as it is in the newly flooded area, Shoham said.

Several local trees have been replanted, but since they are saplings, there is still little shade. On weekends and holidays the area is filled with thousands of fishermen casting their lines along the banks of the lake, but on other days it is almost deserted.

During the coming weeks in particular, hundreds of thousands of migrating birds can be

seen every morning and evening as they come down on their way from Northern Europe to Africa. Flocks of ducks, herons, pelicans and storks cast their shadows, while the lucky visitor can also see the occasional falcon or even a flock of rare black storks.

This freedom of access may not continue indefinitely. According to the arrangement reached between the kibbutzim - which have control of the land - and the JNF, the kibbutzim will be able to develop it for purposes of ecotourism.

Among the projects being considered are rental boats on the lake, a safari park, picnic areas, restaurants, and even a hotel. However, Shoham noted, the kibbutzim realize that by making the area too noisy they could scare away the birds and other animals that attract the visitors.

New Red Sea cruises set to begin

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

THIS winter will see the beginning of cruises from Eilat.

Epitrotiki Lines and Ophir Tours are to run a cruise ship, the *Odyssey*, between Eilat, Sharm e-Sheikh, Suez, Safage and Aqaba. Side trips to Santa Katerina, Cairo, Luxor, Petra and Wadi Rum will also be available. The week-long cruises are to begin next month and continue through March, with prices for the first voyages, before the high season, starting at \$999 (NIS 3,000), including round-trip flight to Eilat. For those booking early, the company is offering a discount of 60 percent for the second passenger in a double cabin.

Majestic International Cruises, represented in Israel by Med Cruises, is to run short cruises starting December 17. The price of a three-day cruise, including stops at Sharm e-Sheikh and Safage, starts at \$390 (NIS 1,170), while that of a four-day cruise, with stops at Sharm e-Sheikh, Hurghada, starts at \$490 (NIS 1,470). These prices also include flights to and from Eilat.

FOR THOSE who would like to see Sinai by land, Arkia has a two-day excursion to Santa Katerina, including flights to and

from Tel Aviv, a stopover in Eilat, and a tour of the monastery, for \$215 (NIS 645). A one-day trip from Eilat, without hotel accommodation, is \$55 (NIS 165).

YOSSI TOURS is offering weekend package vacations at Nuweiba and Dahab on the Sinai coast. The price, which starts at \$149 (NIS 447), includes two nights with breakfast and transport from Tel Aviv.

WITH THE increasing popularity of jeeps, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and other four-wheel-drive vehicles, a set of maps for driving in the rough has been published by Eretz and Eretz Velea magazines. The maps are on a scale of 1:100,000 and indicate all roads and paths, both those which are open to ATVs and those which are closed because they are within nature reserves, national parks or archeological sites. They also show the extent of the autonomous areas of Jericho and Gaza and the exact border with Jordan. The price of the

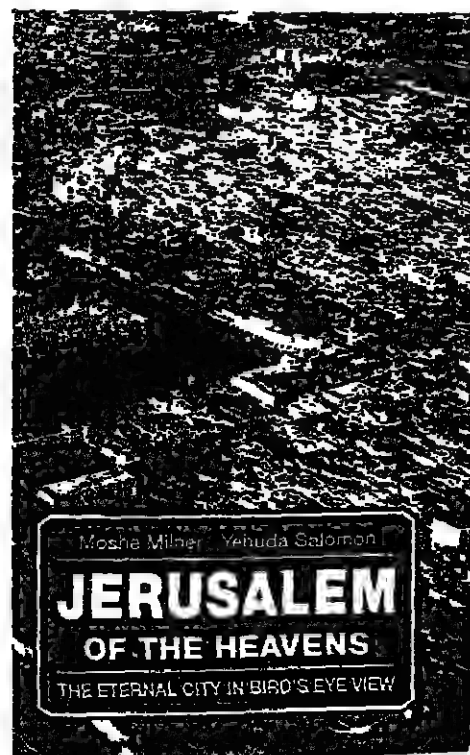
set of 10 maps, plus an instruction booklet, is NIS 87 and is available from the office of the magazines, tel. 177-022-1840, fax. 03-571-4184, POB 565 Givatayim, 53104.

A DUTY-FREE sales center has been opened in Bangkok by the Tourism Authority of Thailand, which promises that prices in the new center will be lower than those in Singapore and Hong Kong. The center consists of an area of 4,250 square meters, where stall holders are to sell electric appliances, electronic equipment, photo and video supplies, clothing and food, as well as typical local goods, such as silks and jewelry. Goods ordered at the center will be delivered and paid for at the airport.

THE MORIAH Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem has allocated 24 rooms for non-smokers.

FOR THOSE wishing to travel between London and other destinations in Europe, AirUK offers a winter one-way fare of \$90 (NIS 270) between the British capital and Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Brussels, with a fare of \$100 (NIS 300) for 14 other cities.

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Rabbi Getz evoked 'magic of prayer'

A month after the mystic's death, those touched by him reflect on his message of inner peace.
Leah Abramowitz reports

HE was an impressive figure descending the steps to the Western Wall dressed in his Shabbat finery: white fur streimel; white bushy beard; white shoes and socks.

People stopped and stared or scattered out of his way in awe, for there was something otherworldly about Rabbi Meir Yehudah Getz, the rabbi of the Western Wall, who died a month ago on Tuesday at the age of 71.

Maybe it was the fact that he held nightly retreats, from midnight to 2 a.m., deep inside the Western Wall tunnels at a spot estimated to be across from the Holy of Holies. He would pray fervently for the welfare of the Jewish people, crying and entreating his Maker to have pity on His children. He slept no more than three hours a night for 50 years.

Maybe it stemmed from the long years of studying and teaching the *Zohar* during the rest of the night, until dawn called him and his followers to the moving sunrise service. A devoted *havara* of disciples, some 20 in number, shared in Rabbi Getz's pursuits in Jewish mysticism. They included doctors, engineers, teachers, army pilots, carpenters and common laborers. Another 30 to 40 people were in less intensive but regular contact with him, either at his nightly classes at the Wall or in his kabbalistic center, Beit El, in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, where he spent his afternoons.

During the last two years of his life, much of his energy was di-

rected towards the renovation of the Beit El House of Study and Synagogue. Rabbi Shalom Sharabi founded a yeshiva to study Kabbala on this site in 1773, and other famous mystics from divergent backgrounds and countries prayed and studied here.

The beautifully reconstructed center was dedicated only two days before Rabbi Getz died.

"Not everyone could be in the *havara*," explains Yisrael Avi Hai, Rabbi Getz's leading disciple. Rabbi Getz wrote a pamphlet outlining the conditions he imposed and the traits required of a kabbalist. Except for a requirement to serve in the army, the list is remarkably similar to that observed by Rabbi Sharabi's *havara* 200 years ago. They are required to love their fellow man and maintain cleanliness and purity in thought and in speech. They must respect their wives, excel in the study of Torah and yet work for a living, eat and sleep as little as possible.

Rabbi Getz himself ate meat rarely, and he and his followers always immersed themselves in a mikva before beginning their learning.

"Members of the *havara* should not get angry, must be able to keep a secret, and be modest," Avi Hai continues, putting this into practice by refraining from mentioning that he will most likely be Rabbi Getz's successor in the Beit El Yeshiva.

The mysticism that Rabbi Getz propagated had nothing to do with magic or occult arts.

"He was not a miracle worker and he did not believe in amulets, good-luck charms or supersti-



Rav Meir Yehudah Getz: Even non-religious people who saw him felt a spiritual uplifting. (Esther Tscholowsky)

tions," says his son-in-law, Shimon Azar. "The only magic he believed in was prayer. When he was at his devotions he was in an upper sphere. Even nonreligious people who saw him felt a spiritual uplifting."

But Rabbi Getz was a study in contrasts. During his days as rabbi of the Western Wall he became a ceremonial figure. He received famous guests, such as Hillary Clinton and Barbra Streisand. He organized mass prayers and public ceremonies, dealing with all the details from the loudspeakers to the program. The Western Wall to him was "the universal synagogue," and he felt responsible for preserving the holy site's sanctity.

Thus, despite his mild demeanor and other-worldly pursuits in the middle of the night, he conducted a war, even in court, against the Women of the Wall and other groups that threatened to desecrate the Western Wall.

He was happiest when the Wall was inundated with crowds—for example, on Tisha Be'av, Jerusalem Day, Shavuot eve, and during the mass Priestly Blessings every *Hol Hamoed*.

Every day he set aside time to receive the many disturbed and distraught individuals who sought solace, first at the Wall and then in his office. He listened to their troubles, gave them advice, made connections and even gave them hand-outs, as he deemed necessary.

His personal life was fraught with tragedy. Two of his 11 children were killed. His son Avner Shimon died in the battle for Jerusalem in 1967. This sparked the family's move to the Jewish Quarter in the Old City. Another son was killed in a car accident. Rabbi Getz had over 70 descendants and maintained close ties with each of them.

At the Beit El dedication ceremony last month, Rabbi Getz thanked his youngest son, Nuriel, for supervising the renovation work. As a sign of his appreciation, he gave Nuriel his tallit and asked him to wear it on Rosh Hashana.

It is traditional in some communities for a man not to wear his father's tallit while his father is alive.

Two days later, Rabbi Getz passed away.

And the band played on...

GRAPEVINE
GREER FAY CASHMAN

FOR Israelis, the long holiday period from Rosh Hashana to Simhat Torah ended Monday night. For Jewish visitors to Israel, it ended Tuesday night. But for Jerusalem Post diplomatic correspondent David Makovsky and his wife Varda Rosenblum, a consultant in human resources, the festivities are still going strong. The couple, who met in the US, tied the knot on Tuesday night, and Rabbi David Hartman came out of retirement to perform the ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Jerusalem. Rabbi Uri Gordon, a friend of the bride, read the ketuba. Varda is the daughter of Rabbi Herzl and Sheila Rosenblum of Philadelphia. The groom is the son of Donald Makovsky of St. Louis.

The guest list was so dominated by the VIPs of Middle East politics and members of the fourth estate that any new regional development in the midst of the wedding celebrations would have produced an instant press conference. Guests included US ambassador Martin Indyk, Ahmed Tibi, adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who put in a brief appearance during the dinner. Health Minister Ephraim Sneh had to leave before the ceremony to attend the Shaare Zedek annual dinner, but Peres stayed to publicly praise Makovsky's professional skills.

Among the media personalities were Shimon Shiffer, political correspondent for *Yedioth Aharonot*; David Landau, Jewish Telegraphic Agency bureau chief; and Hersh Goodman, editor-in-chief of *The Jerusalem Report*. The youngest guest present was Dora Michael Wohlgelegen, born on Rosh Hashana to JP staffer Eli Wohlgelegen and his wife Alana Halper, who occasionally freelances for the Post. Though the focus of much attention, Dora, even at so tender an age, was completely blasé and slept through most of the excitement.

Master of ceremonies at the bridal table was Makovsky's long-time friend Yehuda Minsky, special adviser in the US State Department's Department of Human Rights. Minsky is the brother-in-law of Jerusalem historian Rabbi Meir D. Halperin and brother of media strategist



Smiles beam from David Makovsky, his bride Varda Rosenblum, and Shimon Peres. (Meir Zaslavsky/Asheer Stein)

Zipporah A. Minsky, who tomorrow will host one of the seven nights of blessings (*Sheva Brachot*) for the newlyweds.

HOW QUICKLY memories fade. Throughout the laudatory remarks made at the Shaare Zedek dinner, no one thought that any special mention should be made of Teddy Koller, who just happened to be present.

LOBBYISTS FOR the release of Mordechai Vanunu, who in 1988 was sentenced to 18 years in solitary confinement for revealing to a British newspaper the nuclear secrets of a so-called textile factory in Dimona, should be heartened by the accessibility of East German archives. Quoting from these sources, *Yedioth Aharonot's* Bonn correspondent Israel Tamir wrote this week that Meir Wilner had made similar disclosures about the "textile factory" to Paul Werner, one of East Germany's leaders, as early as January 19, 1963, confirming speculation which had been floating abroad since 1960.

With the availability of this new evidence, Vanunu's lawyers might conceivably be able to secure his freedom. But the interesting question is whether Wilner, a former Communist MK, will lose his. When does the statute of limitations expire on treason, especially when the act is committed by one of the signatories to Israel's Declaration of Independence? And does it matter any more now that the nuclear reactor is a matter of public record?

IT'S A boy! Channel 2 staffers were taking bets as to whether news anchor Miki Haimovitch

would give birth on Yom Kippur. But Haimovitch held out until the intermediate days of Succot. Her son Uri (whose father EA Italia is an announcer on Educational Television), already demonstrating signs of a true pro, was sufficiently considerate to wait until she had finished last Thursday night's presentation of the news. Oshrat Kotler, who is herself in an advanced stage of pregnancy, will take over while Haimovitch is on maternity leave. Unless the stork comes early, Kotler will give birth very soon after Haimovitch resumes her slot.

WOMB AT the top. Kathryn Brochard, wife of French ambassador Pierre Brochard, made history by being the first wife of a French ambassador to Israel to give birth here. Her pregnancy was recalled by none other than Lea Rabin at a farewell luncheon at the French ambassador's residence in Jaffa hosted by Kathryn Brochard and Sarah Burns, wife of British ambassador Andrew Burns. The two ambassadors are winding up their tours of duty — Brochard on October 31 and Burns some time in November.

Because the two women, who move in more or less the same social circles, will be too busy to accept the numerous invitations from people who want to host farewell functions in their honor, they decided to do their own thing. In addition to a large representation of wives of heads of missions, guests included fashion designer Aviva Finko, Kama Shoval, Grazia Zeller, Esther Reuven and Orna Nofar, general manager of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation.

The bombshell that turned into a stink bomb via the snowball effect

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAEL YUDELMAN

AN embarrassing bombshell tossed into the laps of Histadrut leaders this week could not have landed with more inopportune timing. Histadrut Youth Department chairwoman Noga Botansky airily told Israel Radio that chairman Haim Ramon and treasurer Haim Oron had given their blessing to a Histadrut battle plan in support of the peace process and against right-wing street violence.

And, she pointed out for those slow on the uptake, when the Histadrut treasurer gives his blessing — that means money.

Let's look at the timing. Charge sheets against former Histadrut leaders suspected of using Histadrut funds for Labor's internal elections should be presented any day now. Not exactly the right time for a brand-new scandal, especially one linking the new leadership to financial shenanigans.

No wonder Ramon and Oron scrambled frantically to deny Bo-

tansky's statement, declaring loudly that the Histadrut would not give a single agora to any partisan or political activity, which is of course forbidden by law.

It's hard to see a red face on radio but one could almost hear it as Botansky scurried back to the airwaves to mouth that well-known political sentence that begins, "What I really meant to say was..."

What the lady really meant to say was that her first statement referred only to the activities of the Histadrut Youth Movement which she heads and which thus represents the limit of her competence to speak on Histadrut policy...

The bombshell had turned into a stink bomb. But the damage was done. David Tal, head of the Shas Histadrut faction, blasted even the notion of transferring Histadrut funds to political elements. The issue will raise its ugly head at the next Histadrut executive meeting.

TO SPEAK, OR NOT TO SPEAK

A resurgent Ramon issued a clarion call to Labor to wrest "the

support of the street" from the right, even if physical or violent measures became necessary.

Labor, he declared, must make it clear that where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will not be allowed to speak, neither will anyone else.

This is fighting talk, leadership stuff, a line drawn in the sand, and misty eyes lit up with hope in Labor corridors. "The prodigal son is coming home to Labor," ran the whisper down the dusty aisles.

It ain't necessarily so. This is the Hamlet of Israeli politics and a stirring decisive outburst does not foreshadow decisive action.

In the next breath, as the Danish prince lashed out at his own mother, Ramon tore into his mother party, ruthlessly blasting its old ways and warning that it would have to change if it wants him and his maverick colleagues back. ("Mother, for the love of grace... Repent what's past, avoid what is to come.")

Hear me, quoth Ramon, or I will form my own Knesset list, and then where will you be? The bottom line is for Labor to accept reserved Knesset places for him-



Bakhshi-Doron caused jaws to drop when he expressed openness to the plight of battered women.

self and his buddies MKs Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital. The time is out of joint. Oh cursed spire, that ever he was born to set it right.

REPENT, THE END IS NIGH
Amazing, when the Days of

Awe result in awesome change. Oh, what a little seasonal soul-searching can achieve....

MKs Shaul Amor (Likud) and Rafi Eini (Labor) were the first to hear the sound of awe-inspiring changes in the Chief Rabbi's attitude to domestic violence.

Apparently, women will no more be members of a tribe that "doesn't count," the traditional attitude of the rabbinical courts to the gender. Rabbinical judges are to get a new code of rules.

Amor and Eini, who went to see Chief Rabbi Elihu Bakshi-Doron as representatives of the Knesset's Labor and Social Affairs Committee, emerged in jaw-dropping disbelief from the cloister.

The rabbi, enthused Eini, expressed astonishing openness to the plight of battered women, and from now on rabbinical courts will alter their entire approach to the subject. Replacing the all-too-frequent habit of taking battering husbands at face value, the courts will be considerate, open and attentive to the victims' side.

If the Knesset can come up

with the requisite financing, the rabbinical courts would even allow female social workers to testify for victims. (Perhaps Amor and Eini were not aware of it, but the rabbinical courts already employ religious female social workers for this purpose.)

But never mind, it's the thought that counts.

And there's even more. Bakshi-Doron talked of a revival campaign across the country during the month of Shvat, plus a large rally for rabbis, judges and Knesset members to explain, amend regulations and improve the rabbinical courts' treatment of battered women.

As Eini put it, "I found a readiness to stop being as archaic as they used to be and to stop saying the woman doesn't count."

Of course if there was no change, Eini happened to mention in passing, women just might opt to take their cases to the special family courts set up by the state judiciary system.

ET TU, NRP
Next came the National Religious Party's secretary-general Zevulun Orlev with a proposal to

reserve places on the Knesset list for a public figure, a secular figure and an, er, person of the female gender.

Furthermore, he proposed overturning a former decision and allowing women to serve on religious councils.

Several years ago, the High Court of Justice ruled that Lea Shaked could serve on the Yeroham religious council, clearing a path for women to fill these basically secular, state-budgeted positions. The religious establishment ignored the ruling.

Isn't it nice to know that the NRP too is finally tuning in to the times?

Well, there is another consideration. Reform Movement women (triple splinter!) have been earmarked for religious council positions.

As far as Orlev is concerned, it's infinitely better to have kosher, religious, real Jewish women on religious councils than heaven forbid, Reform ones.

ARROW IN THE EYE
But the Shock of the Week prize must go to the Belzer rebbe.

He proclaimed that "a handful of Jews sitting in the heart of Hebron constitutes a provocation of Satan and contributes nothing." Rebbe Yissachar Dov Rokah told his Hassidic faithful at the end of Succot that, while "it is important to pray at the graves of the righteous and in the Machpela Cave, to live in the midst of a hostile population is shooting an arrow in Satan's eye."

As the only member of Degel Hatorah's Council of Sages who supports the peace process, the rebbe advocated maximum separation between Jews and Arabs and said territories should be returned to prevent bloodshed.

The stunned silence in the hard-edged world that greeted the rebbe's pronouncement did not last long. Since it was unseemly to argue with the august seer, hard-edged leaders found it simpler to treat his statement like the theory of evolution. It never happened.

The comment was an arrow in the eye of the establishment and it was with the blind eye they chose to view it.

Thus, the rebbe of Erly first blasted the content of the Belzer rebbe's alleged utterance, then flatly stated he couldn't have made it. Hebron settlers spokesman Noam Arnon said: "We do not believe the rebbe said what was attributed to him."

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1995

Treasury, Intel reach deal on Kiryat Gat plant

THE Treasury will hold a news conference this morning to announce it has reached an agreement with Intel Corp. over the terms under which it will build a \$1.6 billion facility in Kiryat Gat. However, Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish still opposes part of the deal.

The semiconductor plant would be the largest foreign investment in Israel to date. Annual revenues from the facility are expected to total \$1 billion.

Last month, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat announced the sides were on "the verge of an agreement." The issue has been under discussion for quite some

NEIL COHEN

time, as Intel adopted a cagey stance and the Treasury worked to produce a package that would attract it, while working within budgetary constraints.

Under the Capital Investment Encouragement Law, Intel is potentially entitled to receive a grant equal to 38 percent of the project's total cost, amounting to approximately \$600 million, from the Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center.

Such a large sum would severely strain the center's budget. Reuter cited Treasury sources as saying that the two sides have agreed the government will spread out the pay-

ment over 10 years, with the government treating the outstanding amount as a loan from Intel, and paying it interest.

While essentially confirming the arrangement, Industry and Trade Ministry sources said that the payment would be spread over seven years, at an interest rate slightly over LIBOR.

Harish yesterday said he rejected the Treasury's request for his ministry's participation in funding the Intel grant, saying that the Investment Center's budget was already fully allocated.

Harish is due to meet Shohat on Sunday to ask for extra funds from the state budget for major investment projects like Intel.

Economy continues to expand in 3rd quarter

THE economy continued to expand rapidly in the third quarter, due to continued growth in local trade and increased industrial and construction activity, according to the Bank of Israel's quarterly company survey released yesterday.

Industrial firms recorded continued growth in their activities compared with the second quarter, based on increased exports and local sales.

Growth characterized small, medium, and large industrial companies, although more significant growth was reported by the larger firms. More than 30% of the companies surveyed reported an increase in both output and sales.

Post Business Staff

The rise was accompanied by a more moderate rise in stocks of raw materials and finished goods and by higher utilization of staff and equipment. Export orders for the coming quarter also rose, though orders for the local market were flat.

Sixty percent of companies surveyed reported an increase in local sales, while 15% reported a decrease. The increase is expected to continue.

Construction continued its growth from the second quarter, mainly as a result of an increase in the number of building completions. By contrast, seasonal changes resulted in fewer building starts.

Hotels noted a marked increase in activity relative to the third quarter last year. Increased tourism contributed to the rise. Hotel stays by Israelis remained the same, while revenue per room increased.

While the chemical, plastic, metal, and machinery sectors did not register an increase in local sales, they reported an increase in exports.

The communications and transportation sectors, including buses, airlines, and trains, reported a growth in activity, especially in the sale of services within Israel.

The central bank's research arm compiles the quarterly company survey of 650 firms relating to actual developments and changes during the past quarter.

Money supply up sharply in September

NEIL COHEN

THE money supply, or the amount of money circulating in the economy, rose sharply last month, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday.

Money supply is one measure of inflationary trends and yesterday's figures made it somewhat more likely that the central bank will raise interest rates when it announces its monetary program for

November on Monday morning.

M1, which measures the amount of cash in circulation as well as bank deposits, rose 4.3% in September after rising 3% in August and 4.1% in July. So far this year M1 has risen by 19.2% compared with a rise of 11.7% in first nine months of 1994.

Bank lending, or C3, rose by a more moderate 1.2%.

Show-cause order on bond sales

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave the state 45 days to explain why it should not resume issuing special bonds for provident funds.

The order issued by Supreme Court President Aharon Barak and Justices Gavriel Bach and Dalia Dorner upheld the validity of a petition by seven members of different provident funds. The petitioners claim the deposits they had made over the years,

which they hoped would help support them in their old age, had been eroded because the funds could no longer invest in guaranteed bonds, and instead had to begin investing in stocks, which are more speculative.

They also claim the decision to retain special bonds but not for provident funds is discriminatory. The state stopped issuing the special bonds 10 years ago.

Post Business Staff

Abjac announces gas find

RACHEL NEIMAN

OIL and gas exploration firm Abjac announced yesterday that it had struck a mixture of methane and water at its Esther 3A site near Kibbutz Neot Mordechai.

The gusher erupted Tuesday from a depth of between 78.5 and 80.5 meters, as logging equipment was being removed from the drill site. The well was subsequently sealed off.

In the past the Hula Valley has produced gas in commercial quantities. Abjac intends to execute a series of tests in order to assess the amount of gas which might be produced and to ensure the deposit is not part of stratum discovered at the Esther 4 site.

EC envoy: Trade gap with us is Israel's fault

RACHEL NEIMAN

GERMANY tops the list of those European Union countries with which Israel has a trade deficit. Despite a 30% growth in exports to the EU, Israel's deficit has increased by 4.7 percent.

But Israel should look to itself as the source of the problem, Ambassador of the European Commission to Israel Albert Maes said yesterday.

"The trade deficit is due more to fiscal policy of the Treasury than to EU trade policy," Maes said. "It is a reflection of the overall policy of the Israeli authorities. Although there is a high trade deficit, Israel has a high trade deficit overall and it has to be seen as part of a [general] problem."

According to figures released by the Israel Export Institute in preparation for the upcoming Medpartariat conference, Isra-

el's 1994 trade deficit with Germany was \$1.67 billion, up from \$1.45, the previous year.

Israel's 1994 trade deficit with Italy was \$1.39b. (up from \$1.1b. in 1993), and was \$851 million with the UK in 1994, up from \$668m. in 1993.

"Medpartariat Israel 1995 is an example of the importance which the EU places on the Mediterranean in general and its relationship with Israel in particular," Maes continued.

The new Euro-Mediterranean Association agreement, he added, would place Israel among those states moving towards a future Euro-Mediterranean free trade zone in 2010.

As for Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish's statements earlier this week concern-

ing liberalization of US import tariffs, Maes said "as long as they [the two sides] respect the rules of the World Trade Organization, we have no problem."

Problems could develop, he said, "only if discriminatory attitudes are adopted."

Medpartariat Israel 1995 will be held in Jerusalem on October 23 and 24. Israel will be the third Mediterranean country to host the event. Christos Papoutis, the EU adviser to small and medium-sized enterprises, will attend.

In addition to Israeli and European companies, there will be Palestinian, Egyptian and Moroccan missions as well as delegations from Turkey, Cyprus, Malta, Hungary, Bulgaria and the Baltic states. Approximately 2,000 representatives will attend, of whom 300 are from Israel.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS				
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (20.10.95)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.125	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	4.975	5.000	
German mark (DM 200,000)	5.000	5.000	5.075	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.125	1.125	1.375	
Yen (¥10 million)				
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (19.10.95)				
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Rep.	Rate
U.S. dollar	3.379	3.428	2.91	3.424
German mark	2.981	3.014	2.91	2.981
Pound sterling	2.911	2.928	2.91	2.912
French franc	4.818	4.720	4.58	4.704
Japanese yen (¥100)	0.597	0.604	0.58	0.601
Swiss franc (SF 100)	2.948	2.914	2.88	2.938
Dutch guilder	1.952	1.984	1.88	1.988
Spanish peseta	2.580	2.603	2.52	2.591
Swedish krona	0.436	0.443	0.42	0.441
Norwegian krone	0.478	0.483	0.46	0.480
Denmark krone	0.538	0.547	0.52	0.543
Finland mark	0.687	0.703	0.68	0.702
Canadian dollar	2.216	2.257	2.17	2.246
Australian dollar	2.243	2.271	2.20	2.259
S. African rand	0.812	0.824	0.78	0.813
Belgian franc (F10)	1.014	1.018	0.98	1.024
Austrian schilling (S10)	2.972	3.020	2.92	2.994
Italian lire (L1000)	1.952	1.984	1.88	1.988
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.05	4.174
Israeli pound	—	—	0.84	0.922
Yen (¥100)	3.647	3.914	3.57	3.874
Spanish peseta (P100)	4.733	4.840	4.58	4.802
Spanish peseta (P100)	2.424	2.495	2.37	2.418
* These rates vary according to bank. — Bank of Israel.				
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI				

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Friday Oct. 27, 9:00 AM - Hyatt Hotel, Jerusalem
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Finance Committee puts off vote on granting IEC loan guarantees

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Knesset Finance Committee yesterday postponed voting on whether to grant the Israel Electric Corporation \$182 million in Israeli government loan guarantees after it became clear that the coalition did not have a majority.

The issue was presented at the request of the Treasury. IEC's planned development for the year 2000 requires a total investment of some NIS 7 billion. The loan guarantees would be used in equipment purchases from abroad, using guarantees from US and Canadian banks against official government loan guarantees.

The vote was postponed when members of the opposition on the committee made clear they were against granting Israeli treasury loan guarantees and suggested using US loan guarantees instead.

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Key Representative Rates	
US dollar ... NIS 2.9910	-0.10%
Sterling NIS 4.7045	-0.23%
Mark NIS 2.1121	-0.64%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Index	Value	Change
DJ Industrial	4788.2	+1.08
DJ Transport	1915.4	+1.08
DJ Utility	217.04	+1.11
DJ Composite	2610.48	+1.06
NYSE Volume	363.68	-0.16
NYSE Transp	222.78	+0.16
NYSE Utility	315.13	+0.15
S&P 500	584.42	+0.17
S&P 500 Index	315.13	+0.15
NASDAQ Comp	324.10	+1.02

Unchanged Advances Declines

Volume	4782	1848	1217
Shares up (in 1000s)	448	100	19782
Other stock market indexes			

Other stock market indexes

Index	Value	Change
FTSE 100	2921.1	+1.5
Tokyo Nikkei average	17952.1	+1.48
Singapore S&P index	305.81	+0.1
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	987.51	+0.1
London FTSE 100	163.38	+0.1

Israeli stocks in NY

Index	Value	Change
NYSE / AMEX	35.125	-0.002
Amir	0.0002	-0.0002
Amir P	0.0002	-0.0002
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London FTSE 100	163.38	+0.1

Israeli stocks in NY

Index	Value	Change
NYSE / AMEX	35.125	-0.002
Amir	0.0002	-0.0002
Amir P	0.0002	-0.0002
Amir P	0.0002	-0.0002
Amir P	0.0002	-0.0002

Unchanged Advances Declines

Volume	4782	1848	1217
Shares up (in 1000s)	448	100	19782
Other stock market indexes			

Other stock market indexes

Index	Value	Change
FTSE 100	2921.1	+1.5
Tokyo Nikkei average	17952.1	+1.48
Singapore S&P index	305.81	+0.1
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	987.51	+0.1
London FTSE 100	163.38	+0.1

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

Multi-Sided trading

Two-Sided trading

Afternoon

Morning

Two-Sided Index

Maof Index

Two-Sided Index

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TASE drops

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL

193.61
-1.00%

197.42
-1.00%

Two-Sided Index

Maof Index

STOCKS on the TASE dropped for a second day yesterday as investors expected the Bank of Israel to raise interest rates, a move that could cut into corporate profits. Analysts also suggested that foreign investors are selling shares, even though a central bank report indicated that third-quarter profits could be strong.

Money supply figures reported today show that "Credit expansion was moderate, about 1.2%, which is where the Bank of Israel wants it", said David Rosenberg, head of research at Pacific Medi-

teranean Securities in Herzliya. At the same time "the underlying message is interest rates will go up next week," he said.

The Two-Sided Index eased 1% to 193.61, while the Maof Index also shed 1% to 197.42.

The Two-Sided Index ran up nearly 45% from the beginning of March through September 7, but has lost 7.7% since then.

Across the exchange, 12 issues fell for every 10 that rose. Some NIS 66.2 million worth of shares were traded. (Bloomberg)

No news on bids drops FTSE by 14

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - An absence of fresh news on the bid from deprived the UK market of its main impetus of recent days, and the FTSE 100 subsided to finish 14.4 points off Wednesday's record closing level at 3,578.6. While dealers anticipated cash from earlier bids coming back into the market, a lack of further news on takeover activity relieved the pressure on institutions to invest.

FRANKFURT - Shares dropped in lackluster floor trading, as currency was continued to limit investor interest. The 30-share DAX index drifted down 15.21 points to 2,179.60. Dealers said a decision at the forthcoming Bundesbank council meeting to leave interest rates unchanged failed to yield any market reaction, as traders waited for today's expiry of options contracts, including those on the DAX index. In post-bourse trade, the DAX stood at 2,176.09.

PARIS - Shares closed lower with some disappointment that the Bundesbank kept its rates unchanged, but mainly due to resumed weakness in the franc and following Wednesday's rise in bank base rates. But the market closed above its lows. The CAC-40 index closed down 13.36 at 1,757.30.

ZURICH - Shares closed a quiet session weaker as buying interest declined ahead of the Soffex options and today's fu-

tures exchange expiry. Some options and futures related selling, led down the bourse, but bargain hunting limited the losses. The broad SPI lost 6.90 points to end at 2,023.02.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks ended slightly firmer after a day of sluggish trade. Surprising loss forecasts by condominium builder, Haseko Corp. caused nervousness and led many investors to the sidelines. The 225-share Nikkei average ended up 59.39 points or 0.33 percent to 17,952.36.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong stocks finished marginally higher after a day of quiet and directionless trading. The Hang Seng index ended 7.91 points up at 9,981.61, after fluctuating in an 88-point range.

SYDNEY - Australian shares closed firmer, as industrial sector strength overcame a resources sector depressed by lower metals prices. The All Ordinaries index was 0.50 points higher at 2,111.90.

JOHANNESBURG - Industrial shares closed lower, bringing their energetic bull run to an end. In volatile trade, while golds tumbled in sympathy as the bullion price fell to a six-week low. The overall index ended 26.3 points down at 5,852.1; the industrial index fell 5.5 points off at 7,512.1; and the gold index was 22.2 weaker at a five-month record low of 1,360.1.

STOCKS on the TASE dropped for a second day yesterday as investors expected the Bank of Israel to raise interest rates, a move that could cut into corporate profits. Analysts also suggested that foreign investors are selling shares, even though a central bank report indicated that third-quarter profits could be strong.

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Saturday, October 21

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CLINTON

(Continued from Page 1)

Christopher will also meet Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara in New York, and will try to revive the stalled talks. However, another source said it is doubtful Christopher will set a date for a new round of Mideast shuttle diplomacy.

"Unless the chances of resuming talks are high, the US will not risk another failure. Christopher is aware of President Assad's intransigence and his ostensible disregard for the time factor," the source said.

Syria's policies were again the target of harsh criticism and stern warnings from Rabin yesterday, who accused Damascus of "harboring, supporting, backing, [and] militarily assisting Islamic and Palestinian extremists in Lebanon."

Speaking at the Labor Party bureau in Tel Aviv, Rabin said that Syria "is becoming an accomplice to extreme Lebanese and Palestinian terrorism."

"We are now witnessing Syria lending support, supplying cover, [and] allowing use of its territory for movement of both people and arms transfers from Iran to Lebanon, to the Islamic Jihad, Hamas, and of course Hizbullah," Rabin said.

Last month a government agency subordinate to the Prime Minister's Office completed a study in which it assessed that the chances of an Israeli-Syrian deal in 1996 are slim, mainly because of elections in both Israel and the US and because of the implementation of the Oslo 2 agreement.

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GSS

(Continued from Page 1)

rogations when better intelligence should have been used. "We need better intelligence, not more torture halls," Ben-Yair wrote.

The special measures are justified by the "ticking bomb" factor, that is, a situation in which a suspect may have information on an imminent attack and extracting it quickly is crucial to saving lives.

Ben-Yair and Liba'i in the past expressed doubts whether the special measures could withstand a court challenge and urged Rabin to resolve the problem rather than grant short-term extensions. Liba'i briefed the committee on his ministry's efforts to conclude a draft of the GSS bill, designed to define and delineate the parameters and confines of the GSS's powers and authority.

ELECTIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

erament must make full use of all the time at its disposal to carry out our objectives. We need this time to make peace. This is not political time but national time. We will serve out every single day of our term."

Similar statements were made at the bureau session by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, party Secretary-General Nissim Zivili and Labor Knesset faction chief Ra'anan Cohen.

Rabin also used the bureau session to again attack what he called the "right-wing's incitement to violence."

Committing on plans by Labor affiliates to organize a unit of volunteers to accompany him when he makes public appearances, Rabin said he did not need "a bunch of boys around me to contend with the extreme right's madmen. The problem is to make sure that the right's incitement and verbal violence does not get translated into physical violence."

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Tribe savors first pennant since '54; Braves well-rested as series nears

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Indians can first about what lies ahead when they start working out in Atlanta today. For now, they are American League champions, headed for the World Series, and they want to savor it.

"As a kid, you watch the World Series and you always dream about getting a chance to play in one," third baseman Jim Thome said. "Now I have that chance. This is a great feeling."

The Indians earned their first trip to the World Series since 1954 by sweeping Boston in the first round and winning four of six games from Seattle in the second round of the AL playoffs. They won the pennant Tuesday night with a 4-0 victory over the most intimidating pitcher in baseball, the Mariners' Randy Johnson.

In the aftermath of that tense game at the Kingdome — the outcome was in doubt until the eighth inning — Cleveland manager Mike Hargrove was asked if making it to the World Series meant the pressure was off the Indians.

"Right now, yes," Hargrove said. "I fully expect it to come back. Right now, I'm not even thinking about Atlanta. If the pressure is any more intense than it was out there, I'm not sure I want any part of it."

Hargrove, of course, wants more than part of it. He, like the rest of this championship-starved city, wants it all.

The Indians were easily the best team in baseball during the regular season, the only team to win 100 games in a season shortened to 144 games by the strike. They led the AL in batting average and runs as well as ERA.

So their fans were ready to celebrate when the last out was made Tuesday night. Several thousand of them waited for the team's charter to arrive at Cleveland Hopkins Airport early Wednesday morning, and they were cheering anything that moved — a FedEx jet that rolled down the taxiway, a U.S. Postal

Service plane, even a garbage truck that happened by.

And when the Indians themselves showed up?

"It's the greatest feeling ever!" said Nick Keichel, 17, of suburban Eastlake, who along with several friends painted his face Indians red, white and blue.

The city's enthusiasm is certainly understandable. The Indians' success has helped call attention to all that is right with Cleveland, a city that used to serve as America's favorite punch line. Now, it is home to a beautiful downtown sports complex, the new Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and hundreds of thousands of people who are bursting with pride.

"The city went from the dumps and just jumped in front of everybody — jumped over everybody in one leap," said Dan Kozel, 17, of Eastlake.

The Indians will face the Braves in Atlanta on tomorrow night and Sunday. The best-of-7 series moves to Cleveland next Tuesday and Wednesday — and Thursday, if needed. Games 6 and 7, if needed, would be back in Atlanta.

Land have been waiting such a long time for this," second baseman Carlos Baerga said. "This is our gift to them."

Cleveland's mayor, Michael R. White, announced plans Wednesday for a Public Square pep rally at noon Friday. After leading a packed news conference in cheers of "On to Atlanta! On to Atlanta!" the mayor also congratulated the Mariners and their fans.

"It is a good city. It is a great team. They conducted themselves in an outstanding way," White said. "We wish them the very, very best in 1996. But in 1995, we've got a World Series to win."

ATLANTA BRAVES
WORLD SERIES PREVIEW
The Atlanta Braves, taking advantage of a week off between games, could have two injured players back in the lineup for the World Series opener against Cleveland on Saturday night.

David Justice appears to have recovered from the knee injury that knocked him out of the final game of the NLCS victory over Cincinnati. He was struck by a ball during batting practice before the game.

Jeff Blauser, who missed the Reds series with a thigh bruise, did a little running and fielded some ground balls during Atlanta's workout Wednesday night.

"Justice looks real good," manager Bobby Cox said. "Blauser's getting better. He's turned the corner and he may start. We won't decide really until Saturday before the game."

"Tonight's really the first chance I've had to take ground balls," Blauser said. "I'm being cautiously optimistic. I guess it's the best way to put it."

The Indians, who wrapped up the AL crown Tuesday night in Seattle, arrived in Atlanta last night and will hold an afternoon workout today in Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

Cox gave his team another off day Thursday, with the next practice set for today.

The Braves enter the best-of-7 series with more experience in World Series competition, with 10 players combining for 71 games, most of that when the Braves lost to Minnesota in 1991 and Toronto in 1992.

The Indians, who haven't been to the World Series in 41 years, have six players with 28 games, all with other teams.

"They don't need too much experience to go out there and be hungry to win," Braves pitcher John Smoltz said. "They've got enough guys who have been there. They won 100 games, so it's going to be a very good series. I would be surprised if either team jumps out to a huge start."

Cox also discounts the importance of Atlanta's experience advantage.

Steinbrenner wants Showalter back

NEW YORK (AP) — After much speculation surrounding Davey Johnson, Tony La Russa and Sparky Anderson as candidates for manager of the New York Yankees, owner George Steinbrenner says he wants Buck Showalter to return.

The New York Post today said Steinbrenner, for the first time since the Yankees were eliminated from the playoffs, made public his wish to retain Showalter, who has the longest tenure of any manager since Steinbrenner became the team's owner in 1973.

"I'm not so sure any of that makes any difference," Cox said, adding that both teams will have butterflies Saturday night.

Lemke has appeared in 12 Series games with a .326 average and six RBIs. He hit .417 against the Twins, driving in four runs. He had three triples in four at-bats over a two-game span.

He also sees no advantage from Series experience.

World Series on Cable TV

Extended highlights of the World Series will be telecast on Sports Channel, according to program director Ziv Levy.

Game 1 will be shown on Sunday, October 22 at 7 p.m. Information on subsequent games will be published as it becomes available.

"Once it starts, it starts," Lemke said. "It's baseball. It may be a little more pressure packed, but you still go to play the game. Whoever comes out and plays the game the way it's supposed to be played and does the things necessary to win is going to be on top."

The Indians' top Series performers are pitcher Orel Hershiser, who has a 7-0 postseason record and a 2-0 World Series mark, and reserve catcher Tony Pena, who hit .409 and drove in four runs for the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1987 Series against Minnesota.

Other Braves with World Series experience are Justice, Blauser, Rafael Belliard and pitchers Tom Glavine, Steve Avery, Mark Wohlers, Alejandro Pena and Kent Mearns.

Other Indians who have appeared in the Series are Eddie Murray, Paul Sorrento, Dennis Martinez and Eric Plunk.

Showalter, hired in late 1991, signed a three-year contract that ends Oct. 31.

"I'm going to do my best to convince him to stay with us," Steinbrenner told the News. "I like Buck. He's one of my guys. I'm responsible for him getting the job in the first place."

Johnson, who led Cincinnati to a first-place finish in the NL Central and a first-round playoff series win, has already been told he will not return to the Reds next season.

England cricketers arrive in Jo'burg

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — England's cricket team arrived yesterday for a three-month, five-Test tour of South Africa full of confidence for a lively series.

Manager Ray Illingworth's 16-man squad checked into their hotel and were given a warm welcome by Zulu dancers in traditional warrior garb before holding a press conference.

Illingworth predicted a battle of bowlers and captain Mike Atherton felt the series would depend on how both sides handled each other's bowling attacks.

"I would love it to be 3-2, but the right way of course," Illingworth said. "We are here to play cricket, and we have come to play good cricket and win."

With England spearheaded by pacemen Devon Malcolm, Darren Gough and Dominic Cork, and South Africa by Allan Donald and fiery Brett Schultz, the series should be a survival of the bravest batsmen.

"Yes, Donald and Schultz are a decent opening pair," Atherton said, "but I think you should also ask the South Africans how they are going to handle our pace attack."

The one ace up South Africa's sleeve will be left-arm paceman Schultz, of whom the England team have had little experience. They will review videotapes of his recent performance in Harare, Zimbabwe.

England will practice this morning and afternoon. The tourists play their first match against the Nicky Oppenheimer XI in Randjesfontein on Tuesday.

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FDA will recognize clinical trials done here

JUDY SIEGEL

THE US Food and Drug Administration will now recognize clinical trials carried out in Israeli hospitals — a major economic and scientific achievement that is expected to raise the quality and increase the funding of research here.

It will also provide a shortcut for local companies whose products can be tested on patients here, instead of abroad.

Israel is only the second country to have such an arrangement with the FDA; Sweden is the other. Switzerland previously reached such an accord, but it was canceled by the FDA when quality standards there dropped.

The arrangement was initiated by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, who met with FDA chairman Dr. David Kessler last week for the second time in four months.

At the first meeting, Sneh suggested cooperation between Israel and the FDA in the field of clinical testing of medications and treatments on patients. As a result, two large workshops on clinical testing were held here under FDA auspices. The first was attended by researchers and representatives of foreign companies that want to carry out medical experiments here, while the second guided Health Ministry staffers on quality assurance in the hospitals.

At his second meeting in Washington, Sneh obtained for-

mal FDA recognition of clinical trials to be held here.

Sneh said the agreement, whose implementation will be monitored by visiting FDA inspectors, is a testament to the very high quality of Israeli medicine.

Israeli manufacturers that want FDA approval for their medical products and pharmaceuticals, so they can market them in the US and other countries requiring FDA stamps of approval, will now be able to carry out trials on patients here. In addition, foreign companies are expected to significantly increase the income of local hospitals and research institutes, which will test their experimental products.

At present, some 900 different drugs and 100 medical and diagnostic devices are being tested here, most of them without any connection to FDA approval. The potential market under the new arrangement is expected to range from \$50 million to \$250 million a year.

Sneh said that patients here will benefit as well, because clinical trials in which they want to participate will be supervised under strict FDA standards, and the most advanced treatments and devices will be available. Hospitals, he added, will have an economic incentive to improve the quality of their work or they will not be able to successfully compete for contracts.



University students studying to be math teachers man a new math homework hot line, called 'Professor,' that has been established by the Telecal communications company. Beginning Sunday, high school pupils who encounter problems with their homework or test preparations can obtain immediate help by phoning 057-233333, from 2 to 9 p.m., daily except Fridays (there is a fee for the call). The company hopes to add a similar service in other subjects, such as English, if the math study line proves successful.

Majority of Iraqi refugees in prison will be freed and allowed to remain here

RAINE MARCUS

MOST of the 31 Iraqi refugees currently imprisoned in Ramle's Ayalon Prison will shortly be released and allowed to remain here, according to an agreement reached yesterday between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Police Minister Moshe Shahal.

Rabin accepted Shahal's recommendations to release those who infiltrated into Israel because their lives were in danger in their native Iraq.

Authorities are still examining whether the remaining Iraqis, who will not be released at this stage, came here as spies.

On September 7, Shahal visited the Iraqis in prison, where they are segregated from other inmates. Talking to them in Arabic, Shahal told them he was doing everything possible to find a humane solution for their plight.

At the time he said that Palestinian Authority Planning Minister Nabil Shaath had agreed to accept several Iraqis who were willing to go to Gaza. But since the controversy over the release of Palestinian prisoners, the Palestinian Authority is apparently

reluctant to accept the Iraqi refugees.

During Shahal's visit, he indicated that several Israeli families of Iraqi origin had agreed to take in the refugees.

The Iraqis, some of whom have been here for over three years, have asked for political asylum here or in any country which is willing to accept them. But so far, authorities have not found such a country, and the Iraqis have been imprisoned for want of a better solution.

On October 12, several refugees filed a NIS 6 million law suit against the Interior Ministry in Tel Aviv District Court, arguing that the ministry was violating their basic rights of freedom and international law.

The Police Ministry spokesman said that those to be released will be freed within the next few days, after a decision is reached where they will go and under what conditions. Shahal is expected to convene with representatives of the State Attorney's Office this coming Sunday to rule on conditions and dates of release.

Druse leaders urged to do more to stop 'family honor' murders

LIAT COLLINS

MK Assad Assad (Likud) yesterday called on Druse spiritual leaders to do more to prevent so-called "family honor" killings.

Speaking on Israel Radio before a "Take Back the Night" rally in Tel Aviv against violence to women, he said: "The religious leaders must do much more than they do today to stop it. We need more and better education in families and villages; at homes and at family events like weddings. The religious leaders aren't doing their job. The spiritual leadership has gone bankrupt."

Earlier this week, a Daliat al-Carmel woman was killed by her brother apparently because she had married a Beduin. A crowd of local residents, including women, cheered as she was killed.

"I condemn all murders, particularly those using the excuse of 'family honor,'" Assad said. "The best way to protect family honor is good education. I'm trying to work on the awareness myself. Because we're in the age of primary elections, I travel among the villages a lot and, among other things, I raise this subject. But to my sorrow, these things still happen. An incident like this makes the Druse look like barbarians, when this isn't the case. Many women, even in Daliat al-Carmel, go to university."

Last night's rally in Tel Aviv was aimed at raising awareness about violence and the murder of women.

Although not the first event of its kind here, it was the largest, with thousands expected to attend and a large number of big-name performers, including Gidi Gov and Ehud and Meir Banai.

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Riots in Nazareth after border policeman shoots youth in foot

DAVID RUDGE

RIOTING broke out in downtown Nazareth yesterday after a border policeman shot and wounded a local resident following an argument between the two, apparently over who had the right of way.

The border policeman, from Reina, near Nazareth, was surrounded by an angry mob after he lightly wounded 17-year-old Mohammed Sabih. A senior officer said the crowd beat the border policeman severely, and reinforcements had to restore order. Police responding to the shots

came under attack themselves as they tried to extricate the border policeman and take him in for questioning. One policeman was dragged from his car and beaten by the crowd, and his partner had to fire shots in the air to force the crowd back.

One policeman was sent to the hospital, as was Sabih. Two police cars were badly damaged and five people were arrested before calm was restored. The border policeman was being questioned last night by the police internal affairs division over the incident.

Fraud allegations leveled at Labor Ministry workers

RAINE MARCUS

THE Movement for Quality Government says it has relayed to police allegations it has received about crimes committed by senior staffers at the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry.

The complaint was filed, said movement hot line manager David Shoshani, following allegations by someone who phoned the movement then produced corroborating evidence.

One case relates to a senior ministry buyer who allegedly arranged a job for her sister by forging documents. When the latter left the job, read the complaint, she continued receiving a salary and travel expenses, allegedly on the instructions of her sister.

The movement claims that two internal ministry investigations have discovered that the allegations are correct, but that nothing has been done with the findings.

The complaint also said that for the past seven years, a ministry employee has been receiving unjustified salary bonuses as a result of fictitious reports, which the movement claims were made with full knowledge of the ministry's deputy director-general.

The police spokesman said the complaint has not yet been received, but Shoshani said it was sent by registered mail to national investigations chief Cmdr. Yossi Levy.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman shoots husband during quarrel

A Jerusalem woman shot her husband during a quarrel yesterday, wounding him very lightly in the foot. The woman, 41, and her husband, 43, were both arrested for questioning.

The man had accused his wife of being unfaithful and, during the course of their quarrel, he struck her. In response, she slapped him.

She told the police he then got his pistol, put it in her hand, and said: "Shoot me!" She insisted the gun went off accidentally.

Itim

Burg complains to UN chief

Jewish Agency chairman Avraham Burg yesterday lodged a formal complaint with UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali over the non-mention of the Holocaust in the UN's draft resolution marking 50 years since the end of World War II.

"The Holocaust cannot be compromised," Burg wrote. "The UN, which already erred in comparing Zionism with racism, owes an apology to the Jewish people."

BatSheva Tsur

5.1% increase in university students

Some 123,000 students will study at academic institutions throughout the country in the coming year, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said yesterday. This is a 5.1% increase over last year, when some 117,000 students were registered. More than 101,000 will be learning at the Hebrew University, Technion, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Bar-Ilan, and Ben-Gurion universities, and the Weizmann Institute, of whom 22,000 will be freshmen. The remainder will study at recognized colleges.

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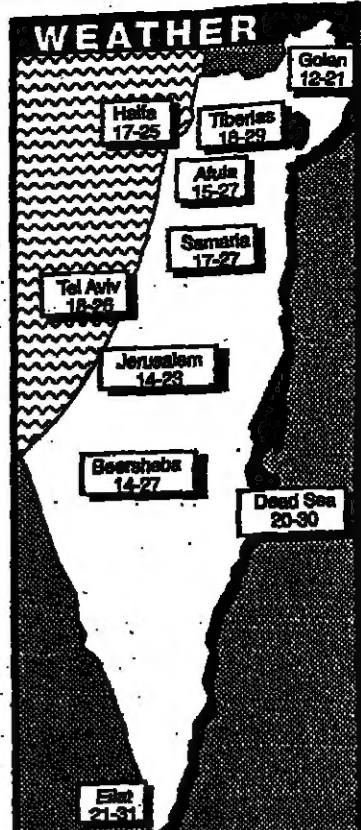
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